

# SERMON TRANSCRIPT

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SPEAKER

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SERIES

Overwhelmed

PART

8

TITLE

Help, I'm Forsaken

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 22



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Well, it is great to see you Providence family. If you're new here with us, whether in the room or at home, welcome, we're glad that you've joined us. If you have a Bible with you turn with me to Psalm chapter 22, as we move through our just a five-week series called overwhelmed. And the fact is that every single one of us recognize and know that when we go through life, we all carry burdens that threaten to bury us. Some of us have walked in the room and there's immediately something that when you think about that, that there's a weight over you that is a little too heavy for you, just a burden in your life. Maybe you already know exactly what that is. We use a word every day or not every day, but that is often in our life, that actually means to be or to feel buried or submerged under a heavy mass of something and that word is overwhelmed. It's overwhelmed.

We all feel overwhelmed from time to time. But what's interesting is we don't always feel overwhelmed with the same thing. There are certain things in life that when you go through life, there are certain things that weigh heavy on you that maybe they don't necessarily weigh heavy on someone else. In fact, when you think about the fall of man, and when I say the fall of man, that's an actual historical event you find in the Bible. When we sinned against God for the very first time and ushered into the world and into our lives, this wave of brokenness, everywhere we look in the world today we see brokenness, but it's true also that we all break a little bit differently. Some of us, when you think about life and the most challenging things about your life, it may be that the heavyweight where you feel overwhelmed is actually a physical thing.

Maybe you have chronic pain, maybe you have back pain. And so when you think about your life, it may not be that your mind is constantly overrun with anxiety or fear, it may just be that you constantly hurt physically. For other people in the world they don't necessarily break so much physically, of course, I guess we all eventually break down physically, but there's a lot of people who enjoy tremendous good health until the very end. For other people physical challenges aren't biggest one, maybe it's relational. Maybe you think about the biggest hurts in your life and it may be somebodies face that appears in your mind, or maybe multiple people's faces who appear in your mind, that it's just very difficult that sometimes those relationships that are so close to us when they're broken, it can be overwhelming to us. And still others we break emotionally, or we break mentally, meaning that the brokenness, we maybe don't necessarily battle recurring headaches, but maybe we battle recurring anxiety attacks. Maybe it's depression or fear or guilt or shame.

Everybody gets overwhelmed with something, but what's interesting is this, is that when the brokenness affects the heart and mind, inside the church it tends to be the elephant in the room where people who struggle with fear, people who struggle with anxiety, people who struggle with those maladies of the mind and of the emotion, it's different. For whatever reason it's easier to say, you know what? I am dealing with recurring headaches to people within your small group, because you don't think anyone's going to think less of your maturity, but for whatever reason, we've associated emotional and mental brokenness to a category of immature spirituality. And the sad thing is, is simply not the case and because of that so many of us in this church family and in every church family, we are silent sufferers. Recurring anxiety, recurring fear, feelings of being forsaken, and yet we don't share with anyone for fear that people are going to think less of us.

And so what we want to do is these little series. Last week we looked at fear, next week we're going to look at anxiety. We're simply looking at those weights that currently today seem to be plaguing the emotional health of our church family. The hope in doing this is to expose those areas of brokenness that exists within us so that if you happen to be battling that area, you can say I'm not alone because you're not. I also want to expose Christ's power in these things and then I also want to expose places of help that if you need help, if you need help to wrestle through some of these significant things that are happening in your life, we want to be able to not only to wrestle with you, but to help identify those places of help. So let me pray and then we'll get started.

Father in heaven we love you, we thank you for your kindness to us and when we open up your word, we believe that's what we're doing. We're not simply opening up an old book, we're opening your book and you love us more than any other. And so would you remind us as we read this Psalm, as we consider this struggle, I pray father for those who feel forsaken today that you would lift them up, God, that you would in our midst create among us a thousand worship leaders and missionaries. That is our prayer and would you speak through weakness to accomplish it, we pray in Jesus name, amen.

There is a pain that we all know in life, and that's the pain of not having. There's things that some of you want, that all of us want and some of us we'll never have them. There's a peculiar pain to having a longing and a desire that goes on that over a period of time, and the fact is, is that every one of us know the feeling. But there's another kind of pain of losing what we had, of having that thing, enjoying that thing, cherishing that thing or that person and then suddenly we don't have them anymore, we don't necessarily cherish them anymore or maybe they don't cherish us. We say, I had a friend in my life and now suddenly that friendship, it fractured and now that person is not a part of my life. For some of us we say, I was married or I had a child, and yet whether it was the brokenness in that relationship or the brokenness in the body cause a death, that now suddenly we don't have those people next to us and that's a real pain.

Some of us, we enjoy at some point of our life a job or job security or financial security or good health, and then suddenly life happens and we don't enjoy those things because they go missing, we lose them. This is what it means to feel forsaken. It starts early. It's really interesting, when we're a little kid and whether it's a friend or a brother or sister, we're playing with a toy and then suddenly they take our toy and they hit us with the toy and now they're playing with the toy and we're looking for some help, we need somebody to intervene in our life right now. So we look over at mom and dad and mom or dad, maybe they saw it, maybe they didn't, but they say, you need to learn to share. And now suddenly there's a wrong that's been done and we're looking to the person in authority in our life, the one that we look at, like that's sort of like the biggest authority in my life and they're not helping at all.

But then what happens is we grow up and suddenly that big authority may not be our parents, it's the Lord, God himself. And when we are then bereaved by death or we're devastated by divorce, or when we are disowned, some people are disowned by their family. When we're rejected by a friend or discarded by a boss, and then suddenly we look to God for help. And for whatever reason, it seems like he's not ready to help. We

call to him and it feels like he's not listening to our voice, this is what it means to feel forsaken. The reality is some people get buried underneath this weight and so God knows it, and so he speaks to it in his word.

Psalm 22 is written by David, the king of Israel. This two big sections and so I'm going to read the first big section. We're going to talk about it, and then later we're going to read the second section. And this is what God says to us. Look what it says verse one, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me from the words of my groaning? Oh my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer and by night, but I find no rest yet you are Holy. Enthroned on the praises of Israel and in you, our fathers trusted, they trusted and you delivered them. To you they cried and were rescued. And in you, they trusted and were not put to shame, but I am a worm, not a man. I'm scorned by mankind, despised by the people, all who see me mock me. They make mouths at me and wag their heads, he trusts in the Lord, let him deliver him. Let him rescue him for he delights in him, yet you are he who took me from the womb.

You made me trust you at my mother's breasts, on you was I cast from my birth and from my mother's womb, you have been my God. Be not far from me for trouble is near and there is none to help. Many bulls encompass me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me. They open wide their mouths at me like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water and all my bones are out of joy. My heart is like wax, it is melted within my breasts. My strength is dried up like a potsherd and my tongue sticks to my jaws. You lay me in the dust of death, for dogs encompass me, a company of evildoers encircles me. They have pierced my hands and feet, I can count all my bones, they stare and gloat over me and they divide my garments among them and for my clothing they cast lots, but you, O Lord do not be far off.

O you might help, come quickly to my aid and deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog, save me from the mouth of the lion, you have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen. We'll stop there, but I want you to see here something you already know intrinsically and that is that every single one of us experience loss that leaves us feeling forsaken. There's something you have lost, if you haven't it means you're just too young. Okay? Just keep living and you're going to lose something that's important to you. Something that was valuable to you, something or someone who is important to you. Loss is part of life. And sometimes that loss leads us to feel forsaken.

Now, this was written by David and David lived a thousand years before Jesus. And when he sought to describe his own pain through the use of metaphors, this is what he wrote. What I want you to see is there's layers of pain. It's not simply that bad things are happening, he tells us through a sequence of verses in the Psalm and you can see those verses, there's a gap. And so if you look in your Bible, this was not on the screen, but if you look at verse one and two, and then in between verse two and three, there's a little space. Like someone hit enter one too many times right there. And then after verse five and after verse eight and after verse 11, it's a song and each one of these are verses that build on each other. And so what I want to do is show you the layers of pain that David experienced, because what it is, it's a map to show us, how is it that we finally get to that place where we say, I am absolutely forsaken?

The first layer of pain that we find is that we feel distant primarily from God. Just look at the words, why have you forsaken me? That means why have you left me? You are so far from me and then when I cry by day and night, you do not answer me. And so he knows God is there, and yet he feels that God is not very close and yet he also knows, David knows, because he wrote about it many times that the promise that God made, that he wanted to be with his people. And so you add to this, the second layer of pain, and that is, he's been faithful to other people. He says, you know what? When I think about our fathers, he said, "They trusted. They trusted, they trusted and they cried to you. And what did you do, Lord? You delivered and rescued, and you did not put them to shame."

You see, history of God's faithfulness produces categories of hope. We started thinking about what he's done in other people's lives says, you know what? I know you've been faithful to people who've called out to you, who have trust you and yet I look and I think, God, where are you right now in my life? Well, this adds to the third layer. The third layer is we feel abandoned. Notice what he says, he goes, look, I'm a worm and a man, he goes, but here's what I feel like, I feel like I'm scorned, I'm despised, I'm mocked by people. And the direction of their mocking is actually my faith in God. He says, "They wag their heads. He trusts in the Lord, let him deliver him." In other words, God, I have publicly connected, I have publicly staked my life to you. I have told people that the God that I worship is the one that when I am in need, I can call upon him for help and he is near me.

And now they're looking at the problem in my life, in the affliction of my life and they're saying, oh yeah, you said he's going to help you, so let's see it. He's saying, God, I have put myself out on a limb with you and now I feel like in the moment of need I'm here alone. Ever been there? Add to this a fourth layer of pain and that is, wait a minute, but you've been faithful to me. He says, you're the one who took me from the womb, you're the one who made me trust you. When he says, made me trust, that doesn't mean he obligated, it doesn't mean that he was the only God in the world that people could worship, it means that he has been so faithful to me over time that there is no one else that I can worship. He says, ever since the womb you've been my God.

And then add to this, the next layer, which requires three slides, but it's just the feeling of personal distress. You think about the metaphors that are built up here and you think about sometimes when you feel forsaken, isn't this is how you feel? You say, you know what? Man, there's people and there's a thread around me that just surrounds me, it feels like I just can't get away from it. He goes and I'm poured out, like my energy, I feel exhausted. I feel emptied over this situation. And not only that, but my bones are out of joint, which is interesting. And my heart is like wax, it's melted within my breasts. Meaning that my very heart it's like it's made of wax that was put too close to the fire. And therefore, right now I feel like I just don't have the courage in order to face this affliction anymore.

He goes on and he says this. He says, “Look, my strength is dried up. I feel weak and my tongue sticks to my jaws. And I feel like that this is simply a place of death and I feel pierced.” I realize what he’s about to say, and some of you, you’re already really like, oh, this is speaking about Jesus. Yeah, but isn’t it also true that when you truly feel afflicted, that that pain can be so acute that it feels like in that place, it feels like you’re being pierced. That relational pain, being left, being abandoned, it feels like somebody has pierced me. And then he goes on to one step further and he says, they stare at me. You ever felt this? When you’re in the moment of affliction and other people know about it, it feels like when you walk through the room that everybody’s looking at you. Oh, that’s the person who’s divorced. That’s that widow. That’s the guy that was fired.

It’s a really, really difficult place to be. And it ends with a personal please. He says, God, there’s a lot that I don’t know, but this I do know, I need you to help. I need you to deliver it. I need you to save. This world with all of its broken bodies and all of its broken people and all of its broken relationships and all of its broken systems, it’s a hard place to live and it’s a place that leaves us frequently feeling forsaken. So let me encourage you to do something in the face of this truth, and that is acknowledge your losses. David recorded his, think about it. He wrote his down. He wrote this down. What’s interesting is he didn’t stop there. You see, he knew that he was part of a community and that community would be filled with other people who were also buried under the similar burden of feeling forsaken and so what did he do with it?

Notice what the title says, before verse one, so you see the big 22 in your Bible and if you look right under the big 22, there’s some little words that we didn’t read. It says, “To the choir master, to the choir master.” What does that mean? It means this, that David himself gave it to the choir master to put to music, to sing to the people so the people who felt forsaken could be encouraged. David was saying to his people, it’s okay in God’s family to be broken. It’s okay not to be okay. You see, admitting our distress to ourselves and others and admitting the distress, even the deep confusion with what God is permitting in our life, it is not a betrayal of faith or hope or love, it’s an affirmation of faith and hope and love. That you notice when you look at this, that you think, wow, this is some interesting words that he would use that so resembles somebody else in the Bible.

You should recognize that David, a thousand years before Jesus came to this earth, under the inspiration of the Holy spirit, when he wanted to choose metaphors in order to describe his own pain, this is what he wrote down. But God had a plan in writing these words down because there would be another person that these wouldn’t be metaphors, this would be reality. There’s an interesting form of art, it’s called perceptual art. Artists they take a room, what they do, you can’t hardly see it because it’s all clear, but there’s string. Up here you see there’s these hooks and the strings. And what they do is they hang all of these black balls all over, all different sizes and all different places. And every one of them is hung strategically. And if he’s standing in any place like we are right now, it just looks like chaos. It just looks like a big problem. And yet the art is actually designed that if you stand in a particular place, this is what you see. And this is what Psalm 22 is all about.

It's calling us to actually come to a place called the cross of Jesus Christ, where we find the fulfillment, the reality of everything that we've just read that was a metaphor in the life of David. So the second thing I want you to see here is this, is that Jesus endured utmost loss to prove we are not forsaken. Consider even through this text and others, the loss that Jesus endured. Jesus, we're told he stood from his throne in heaven, he left the adoration of everyone in heaven who's praising him and he took on flesh, became a man and he came to this earth and the Bible says he did so to seek and to save the lost. He lived here without any sin whatsoever and yet there was a point in time when he deliberately marched to Jerusalem at Passover, declaring three different times during the journey, I am going to Jerusalem where I will be bound, I will be falsely accused, I will be condemned, I will be scourged and I will be crucified and we're going in order to die for your sin.

He knew what was happening and sure enough that's what happened. He was condemned and scourged and he was put on a cross. And when he got on that cross, one of the things that he said from that cross is what 22 verse one, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" There's a lot of interesting words in there, but just consider the word why. He knew why. He knew why in terms of a mission. He also knew why, because the stench of our sin that was upon him was pungent to his own pure soul, but now for the first time he felt the why, his father was not near. When we go through pain, we often accuse God of his goodness or his absence or his unfaithfulness to a promise. We malign God in our heart or maybe even to other people about how he's been unfaithful to us, but not Jesus. In verse three says, "You are holy, in you our fathers trusted and you delivered."

What he's saying is this, Jesus, he simply knew the father too well to ever malign his character, to allow circumstances to change what he knew about the father, his father. Nobody in the history of the world had more clarity of the historical kindness of God the father toward his people than Jesus. And so in that moment of pain, he says, I do feel forsaken, but you, you are holy. You've continued to think about the humility of Jesus to the place where he would say this in verse six, I'm a worm and not a man. For those of you who love to study the Bible, you read in the old testament, there's a place where there's a man named Moses who was called by God to go out and to do something very special, to rescue God's people. And he said, "Well, when I get there who do I tell him is calling me to do this? What's your name?" And God says, "Tell him I am sent you," interesting name, I am, the great I am. What is that?

I am was a name that God chose for himself. They would describe the infinitude, the sovereignty of all that he is, meaning that when my people come to me and they need grace, I am grace. I'm not just gracious, I am grace. I am mercy. I am strength. I am wisdom. I am friendship. I am love. I am these things, and so just imagine the unbelievable contrast of the great I am saying and I am a worm. In this moment on the tree carrying our sin both were true of Jesus. The great I am and the dirtiest man to ever walk the earth. You say, how could you call him dirty? Because he carried upon his brow the sin of everyone who has ever lived. He goes on and he says, "And all who see me mock me," what an amazing thought here. If you read Matthew chapter 27, you'll find in verse 43, these words were a direct quote from people who were mulling around the cross and they're saying, what's he going to do up there? He said he might rise, so what's he going to do?

And they quote without knowing, they said, “He trusts in the Lord, let him deliver him.” You look at this word all, it’s interesting, not everybody was mocking him, Mary was there and Mary wasn’t mocking, it was Mother. What does it mean then? Well, it means that all means all kinds of people, men and women, Jews and Gentiles, soldiers, civilians, religious, irreligious. This ridicule came from sinners who made faces at him before whom angels tremble and adore. Jesus felt something that we all feel, and that is alone in a crowd. It’s a terrible feeling. Some of you feel it right now. You look around and you go, there are all these people and I am so alone. Some of you feel more lonely right now than in the car when you were coming or you stick around. It may not help you in the moment, but at least you have a friend because you’re not the first because Jesus thought the same thing. Notice what he says, trouble is near me and there’s none to help and yet there’s many who encompass and surround me.

The bulls of Bashan, this was a rich, fertile place where the bulls would go and the bulls from Bashan, they were fatter, healthier than all the rest. It says that the Pharisees and the priest, it says that they mold around like bulls under the cross casting their insults at Jesus Christ. And he was all alone. He goes on in verse 14 and 15, he says, he’s poured out like water and his bones, his bones to the place of breaking, straining, trying to hold up all of that weight on those little pieces of metal. And all of this made his heart feel like wax that was too close to the fire. He says that his tongue, notice he says my tongue sticks to my jaws. Can you imagine how thirsty he was? This is a man who prayed all night with such intensity that he not only sweat, but he bled, no water. He was arrested then he went to trial for hours, no water. He was scourged almost to death, no water. And now he hangs on a cross and around him, just imagine the dusty air, all the people mulling around, watching this.

And here he is, and he’s trying to take breaths and the only thing that’s coming in and out of those teeth is dirty air. Just caking the inside of his mouth. Can you imagine, has there ever been anyone in the history of the world who deserved this cup of water more? Who needed this water more? It goes on to verse 16 through 18, it says, they’ve pierced his hands and feet. And then it says, they stare and gloat at me as they divide their garments. Think about this for a second. As Jesus Christ, the Holy one hung on those nails, how violated must he have felt to see all kinds of sinners gawking at his nakedness while the soldiers were gambling for his clothes. At the end of all this just as he promised, he sucked in one Last breath and said it is finished, paid in full, what that means. It’s paid in full and then he died.

And then as promised again, three days later, he rose from the dead. And when he rose from the dead, he did something unthinkable. And that is that he looked at sinners in the eyes and he says, if you will believe in me and stop trusting in your own righteousness, you can receive all the benefits of my victory over sin and death. I’ll forgive you of your sin, I’ll give you my righteousness, I’ll bring you into relationship with my father and I’ll give you eternal life in heaven. This is, it’s called the gospel. It means good news that you can’t get to heaven alone and yet this man went through this pain and this loss and this kind of feeling forsaken in order to bring you to heaven.

So let's acknowledge the losses Jesus endured to rescue us. You see friends, the cross does not mean, when we think about the cross and the reality of the cross, it doesn't mean that we will not be forsaken by people on this earth, nor does it mean that we won't at times feel forsaken by God, but the cross emphatically declares now, and always, we are not forsaken by God. Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous that he might bring us to God, not leave us, not forsake us, but to bring us. My question is, have you been brought near, have you trusted Christ? Where you're at, what are you resting in to deal with the moral debt you have before God? The Bible says that if you will believe in him, if you will recognize that it meant you cannot save yourself, that you'll put your trust in him, the Bible says, he will forgive you of all of your sin. He will bring you into his family.

He will make you a people, his people that he will never forsake. I urge you now to trust him, to trust him with your life. So you simply say a prayer, you say, God, I admit that I need you and I believe Jesus, you are the only savior who can save me. And he will. He will. You see, this is incredibly important because the last point, which is the second part of the Psalm, it deals with now, for those of us who recognize the cross is an affirmation that he hasn't forsaken us, how do we live when we still feel forsaken? And that's this, resting in Jesus gives us hope when we feel forsaken. You see, there must've been a point you knew it had to happen. There must've been a point when David put down his pen, he looked at his hands and he says, there are no holes in these hands.

And at that very moment, the Bible tells us here is that without any change in a circumstance, just imagine this, without any change, he's still in the same place of affliction, whatever it was that caused him to feel so uptight, he's still there. And yet now what happens is his faith and the coming rescuer, who would go through these things for him, it turns him into a man of great hope. Notice what he says, starting in verse 22. "I will tell of your name to my brothers, and in the midst of the congregation, I will praise you. You who fear the Lord, praise him, all you offspring of Jacob, glorify him and stand in all of him, all you offspring of Israel for he is not despised or uphold the affliction of the afflicted. He has not hidden his face from him, but his heard when he cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation, and my vows I will perform before those who fear him. The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever. All the ends of the earth shall remember in terms of the Lord and all the families of the nations shall worship before you, for kingship belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship. Before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. Posterity shall serve him. It should be told to the Lord, so the coming generation, they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn that he has done it. He's done it."

In the midst of the affliction what happens is he begins to imitate Jesus Christ in his affliction. And that is, he becomes two things. He becomes a worship leader and a missionary. Jesus is the ultimate worship leader. What I mean by that is not that he can sing, he probably can sing really well, but that's not what I mean by

worship leader. What I mean by worship leader, is you look at God's people and you say, let's worship the Lord. He's worthy. And then you go to people who aren't worshipping the Lord as a missionary, you say, he is worthy. This is what Jesus did and I want you to see that this is exactly what happens when we rest in Jesus, even when we're in that affliction. Notice 23 and 24, "In the midst of the congregation, I will praise you. You who fear the Lord," it says, "Praise him and glorify him and stand it all for him." You see what he's doing? He's still hurting and he looks at the congregation of God's people and he says, but he's worthy.

Now, one of the most remarkable things is the author of Hebrews actually says that this verse actually is Jesus Christ. In Hebrews chapter two notice what he says, he is not ashamed to call them brothers saying, I will tell of your name to my brothers in the midst of the congregation, I will sing your praise. Now, this is what the author of Hebrews is saying about when we gather together for worship, it's a pretty remarkable thing. He says that Jesus Christ among all those who have called upon him and who have trusted in him, he comes into our midst and he says, I want you to know I'm not ashamed to call you brothers and sisters is. He says, and this is what I'm going to do. He says, "I'm going to praise God the father and I welcome you to join me. You see, Jesus is the ultimate worship leader. He gathers with us and he says, he's worthy. You got to worship. You have to worship.

And so what happens is that when David in the midst of his affliction, he starts thinking about who this is, who would come and what he would do. He says, well, I need to imitate him. I need to call people to say, this person is worthy. You see, when we recognize that Jesus is worthy of all the worship, of all the world, and then we recognized that he is not being worshiped in all the world, what happens is a missionary spirit is ignited within our heart. That's what happens starting in verse 27, you see verse 22 to 26, it's all about praising him. And then he says, you know what? That's great for people who already know him, but what about those who've never heard? And so notice what he says, all the ends of the earth, that's people who are worshipping other gods shall remember in terms of the Lord and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

Oh, may God create a thousand worship leaders and missionaries out of us this morning. So before we take the suffer, let me encourage you with a few things, things to do when you're feeling forsaken. As a believer in Christ, do you know because of Jesus, you're not, and yet today I feel, what do you do? First, you keep praying. And feeling forsakes, you keep praying. David was afflicted and he prayed. Jesus was afflicted and he prayed. They said, my God, my God, why? That's a prayer. Both felt the agony of grief and yet neither gave in to the misery of doubt. Second thing in addition to praying is considered the cross. When pain tempts us to accuse God's character and it will, Consider the cross. For the Cross reveals and reminds us that God's infinitely good plans for our life include the suffering of his people. This people whom he loves like his son.

So instead of questioning God's holiness, learn to argue from it. Verse three says you are Holy and that's where we start. Not I'm hurting, you are hurting, but that's not the truest thing in the world. Even more true that I am hurting is God is Holy. And so what we do is we argued that becomes the foundation we stand upon. Okay, he's holy, so I cannot accuse him of not being that. And so what's happening in my life has to be

something better than God has forsaken me. This is the God who said, I will never leave you, I will never forsake you. He's Holy. He always keeps his promises. And so consider the cross. Third, resist isolation. Our go-to when we feel pain is to cut people off and turn to things that make us numb. Friends that may be that people are the ones who hurt as deeply, but in God's economy, it will also be the love and prayers of other people that God will use as a flotation device for our hope. And so if you feel forsaken, that's not an invitation to cut off people in your life.

And the last thing is one feeling forsaken, let's sing and share the gospel. Worship leaders and missionaries, worship leaders and missionaries. You see, we can wallow in our loss until the day we get to heaven and he takes away all the loss, or we can put that energy to eternal use while we're still here. Where do we start? And he says, you need to start at home. Remind your own kids, your own wife, your husband, your parents. Notice what he says. Posterity shall serve him. It shouldn't be told to the Lord to the coming generation and they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, tell your kids he's worthy of praise.

And the great hope of all worship leaders and missionaries is that he has done it. Or in other translation is, it is finished. He's done it. What we're going to do now in a moment, we're going to sing a song so you get to practice if you feeling forsaken, and we're also going to share the gospel and we're going to do it through the Lord's supper. You see, the Bible says that when we take of the supper, we're proclaiming to one another what we believe. If you have never trusted Christ, I would encourage you not to take of the elements because to take them is to treasure them. But if you have taken them, what's going to happen is when we take them together, it's going to be a declaration to one another.

For anybody who's watching, I want you to know this is what it means to hold this thing and to take it is, I want you to know that Jesus Christ is my hope even if today I'm feeling abandoned. And so the Bible says before we take it, we should pray and confess our sin to him. So why don't you take a moment right now, why don't you take a moment right now and confess your sins to the Lord?



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