



## Prayer for Future

### Closing Questions ...

- +What is God calling you to be/do in 2006?
- +What is God calling us to be/do in 2006?

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**Eph 3.14-19** - 14When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, 15the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. 16I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. 17And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. 18And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. 19May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. 20Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. 21May he be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen.

B



## Trust God

### Questions ...

- +How much do you trust God?
- +Have you yielded your whole life/heart to God?

B

### Trust God!

For the Lord does not abandon anyone forever. Though he brings grief, he also shows compassion according to the greatness of his unfailing love. For he does not enjoy hurting people or causing them sorrow. (3.31-33)

A

# Beginning

01.01.2006



## Humble yourself ...

### Psalms ...

- +You rescue those who are humble, but you humiliate the proud. (18.27)
- +He leads the humble in what is right, teaching them his way. (25.9)
- +The humble will see their God at work and be glad. Let all who seek God's help live in joy. (69.32)
- +Though the LORD is great, he cares for the humble, but he keeps his distance from the proud. (138.6)
- +The LORD supports the humble, but he brings the wicked down into the dust. (147.6)
- +For the LORD delights in his people; he crowns the humble with salvation. (149.4)
- +The LORD mocks at mockers, but he shows favor to the humble. (3.34)

B

### Humble yourself before God!

Let them sit alone in silence beneath the LORD's demands. Let them lie face down in the dust; then at last there is hope for them. Let them turn the other cheek to those who strike them. Let them accept the insults of their enemies. (3.28-30)

A



## Seek God ...

### Seek God with all your heart!

The LORD is wonderfully good to those who wait for him and seek him. So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the LORD. And it is good for the young to submit to the yoke of his discipline. (3.25-27)

**Mt 7.7-8** - "Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And the door is opened to everyone who knocks.

Are you seeking God ...?



## Intro

### 2 polar events ...

- +Exodus from Egypt (1200 BC)
- +Exile into Babylon (587 BC)

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### Lamentations

- +5 poems by Jeremiah ("weeping prophet") after Exile into Babylon
- +Israel being punished for sin (suffering)

### Psalms of Lament (Israel known for)

- +Poetic complaints, laid before God
- +Raw emotion

B

### Lam 3.21-33

21Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this:

22The unfailing love of the LORD never ends! By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. 23Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each day. 24I say to myself, "The LORD is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!"

25The LORD is wonderfully good to those who wait for him and seek him. 26So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the LORD. 27And it is good for the young to submit to the yoke of his discipline.

28Let them sit alone in silence beneath the LORD's demands. 29Let them lie face down in the dust; then at last there is hope for them. 30Let them turn the other cheek to those who strike them. Let them accept the insults of their enemies.

31For the Lord does not abandon anyone forever. 32Though he brings grief, he also shows compassion according to the greatness of his unfailing love. 33For he does not enjoy hurting people or causing them sorrow.

C



## Remember God's Faithfulness

### Remember God's Faithfulness!

- +What God has done throughout history (Bible)
- +What God has done for others
- +What God has done for you

The unfailing love of the LORD never ends! By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each day. I say to myself, "The LORD is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!" (3.22-24)

**Ps 73.25-26** - Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire you more than anything on earth. My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever.

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