

Summer in the Psalms

Sermon Title: *Facing Severe Crises*

Speaker: Israel Martin

Focus Passage: Psalm 89:38-52

Belong

What's the most "minor crisis" you've faced recently—something small that still felt overwhelming in the moment?

Leader Transition (Read Aloud):

Pastor Israel reminded us that crises, both personal and national, are part of living in a broken world. Psalm 89 shows us what it's like to cry out in confusion, doubt, and pain while still holding onto the hope that God's love and faithfulness haven't gone anywhere. Let's explore what it means to be honest with God in crisis—and how He responds.

Believe

Read Psalm 89:38-52

1. **Verses 38–45 describe deep pain and loss. What stands out to you about how the writer talks to God?**

Leader Note: He doesn't hold back—he's honest about feeling rejected, broken, and confused. This shows us that lament is not the opposite of faith but part of it.

2. **The psalmist asks, "How long, O Lord?" (v. 46). Why do you think waiting in crisis is so difficult—and how does the Psalms help us wait with hope?**

Leader Note: Waiting exposes our need for control. The Psalms teach us to anchor our waiting in God's character, not our outcomes.

3. **In verse 49, the psalmist asks, "Where is your steadfast love of old?" What do you think helps us remember God's love when we can't feel it?**

Leader Note: Scripture, community, past faithfulness, and worship are all tools that help us recall what's still true, even when emotions waver.

4. **How does this passage ultimately point us to Jesus, the descendant of David and fulfillment of God's promise?**

Leader Note: Though it felt like the covenant with David was broken, Jesus comes as the true King whose reign never ends. He is proof that God hasn't abandoned His promises—even in crisis.

Become

1. What's one honest prayer you need to pray this week, even if you don't have all the answers?

Leader Note: Sometimes the bravest thing we can do is admit where we're struggling. Let Psalm 89 give permission to bring real questions before God.

2. Who in your life is currently walking through a crisis? What's one way you can be a voice of hope or a reminder of God's faithfulness to them?

Leader Note: The application might involve checking in, sharing Psalm 89, or simply being present with someone in their pain.

Group Challenge:

Choose one verse from this passage to meditate on or memorize this week. Maybe it's a cry like "How long, O Lord?" or a promise like "Blessed be the Lord forever." Let it remind you that your crisis doesn't cancel God's covenant.

Close in prayer, thanking God for being present even when life feels uncertain. Ask Him to help your group trust His love and faithfulness through every trial.