

## Study Guide

### Psalm 77:1-10

1. Read v. 1-2.

*"I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and he will hear me.*

*2In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted."*

Can you relate? Has there been a time in your life when God was silent?

What was that like?

2. Read v. 3-4.

*3When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints. Selah*

*4You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.*

After seeking God and praying, the problem is worse, because now I not only have a difficult trial, but my God, whom I depend upon, seems to be on a distant journey. Describe what Asaph may have been feeling.

3. Read v. 5-6.

*5I consider the days of old, the years long ago.*

*6I said, "Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart."*

*Then my spirit made a diligent search:*

Through shallow thinking, we can miss what God might be teaching us. What does a "diligent search" look like for you?

4. Discuss the following reasons why God may be silent at times:

1. He is testing me. (Abraham, Moses, Job...)

2. He has already spoken, but I didn't listen.

3. I'm not ready to hear His answer. (i.e. John 16:12)

Are there other reasons you can think of? Discuss.

5. Read v. 10

*10Then I said, "I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High."*

How does thinking about the long-term, proven and powerful hand of God help us in seasons when God is silent?

## Message Slides

### **A. When Trouble Strikes (v.1-2)**

*"I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and he will hear me.*

*In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted."*

### **B. When God is Not Helping Me (v. 3-4)**

*"When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints. Selah*

*You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak."*

### **C. When I am Driven to Go Deeper (v.5-9)**

*"I consider the days of old, the years long ago.*

*I said, 'Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart.'*

*Then my spirit made a diligent search:"*

### **Why Does God go Silent?**

1. He is testing me.

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2. He has already spoken, but I didn't listen.

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Psalm 77:7-9

*"Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable?*

*Has his steadfast love forever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time?*

*Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion? Selah."*

### **Why Does God go Silent?**

1. He is testing me.

2. He has already spoken, but I didn't listen.

3. I'm not ready to hear His answer.

*"I have much more to tell you, but you are not ready for it..." John 16:12*

### **Conclusion (Psalm 77:10)**

*"Then I said, 'I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High.'"*

