



11.3.24 • Alicia Bruxvoort & Anna Beck

The Space Between the Answer and the Ask: Wrestling with God in the Silence

Big Idea

We can't change the reality of unanswered prayer but we can control our response to it. In the space between the answer and the ask, we can either turn towards God or away from Him. Ultimately, the greatest gift of prayer isn't found in getting more from God; but in getting more of God

Key Verses

Matthew 1:23;
Psalm 145:18;
Isaiah 49:15; John 5:17; Matthew 19:26; Psalm 34:15; 1 John 5:14; Psalm 6:3; Psalm 10:1; Psalm 13:1-2; Psalm 22:1; Psalm 42:3; Psalm 88:13-14; Psalm 6:8b-9; Psalm 10:14, 16-17; Psalm 13:5-6; Psalm 22:3-5; Psalm 42:4; Psalm 88:1; Mark 14:35-36

Discussion Questions

- 1). Think about a time you were waiting on God, what narrative did you tell yourself in that space?
- 2). Consider the four D's that describe our responses to God in the waiting, which one do you most relate to and why?
- 3). Read Psalm 42 together and talk through the ups and downs you see. Where do you spot worship? Where do you see wrestling? How does the psalmist draw near to God in the midst of His pain? If you were to gauge the Psalmist's spiritual "heartbeat," how healthy does his relationship with God seem? Why?
- 4). Think about someone you know who is in the midst of waiting on God, how can you better walk with them in their wrestling? Or if you are the one in that space of waiting, how would you like others to walk with you? What is helpful? What is hurtful?
- 5). What's one small step you can take to turn towards God instead of away from Him right now?
- 6). The Hebrew word in scripture, QAVAH [TIKVAH], means to HOPE, to WAIT, to bind together. What makes it challenging to wait with hope when God's not yet answering your prayers? How does hope change your narrative in the waiting?
- 7). Are you "wait-hoping" on anything right now? How can we pray for you and with you as you wait?

Notes
