

LESSON 3

SALVATION BELONGS TO THE LORD

Psalm 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

¹O Lord, how many are my foes!

Many are rising against me;

² many are saying of my soul,
there is no salvation for him in God. *Selah*

³But you, O Lord, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.

⁴I cried aloud to the Lord,
and he answered me from his holy hill. *Selah*

⁵I lay down and slept;
I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.

⁶I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

⁷Arise, O Lord!
Save me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

⁸Salvation belongs to the Lord;
your blessing be on your people! *Selah*

WELCOME: *Fixing Our Focus*

Leader: Ask the group to share a time when they experienced a trial or faced opposition in their Christian walk. Ask them how they dealt with it and to whom they ran to.

WORSHIP: *Adoring Our God*

Suggested songs:

Salvation Belongs to Our God by Crystal Lewis

Christ is Enough by Hillsong Worship

WORD: *Understanding the Word*

Introduction

Have you ever felt so overwhelmed by opposition? Are you the only Christian in your family and the rest of your family members are making fun of your faith? Are you the only Christian in your class at school, and because you do not allow your classmates to cheat from you during exams, or refuse to join when your classmates are up to mischief, they make life at school difficult for you? Are you the only Christian in your workplace, and because of your work ethics, your colleagues are ganging up against you, seeking to have you removed from your team? Are you the owner of a company who abides by government regulations, but because most if not all of your competitors skirt the law, your company is now on the brink of closing down? King David, the author of this psalm, faced overwhelming opposition, yet continued to keep his life in tune with God, because of his confidence in Him.

Leader: Lead in reading Psalm 3 aloud together. Then read the paragraph on the “Key Verse.”

Key Verse: Just like in the previous two psalms, the key to understanding this psalm is found in the last verse, “Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people!” Salvation indeed comes from the Lord alone; no matter what others may say.

Psalm 3:1-2. Theme: _____

1. Underline the word “many” in this passage.
2. What are the enemies of King David saying about him?

3. Read 2 Samuel 15:10-12. Describe the situation of King David and the conspiracy led by his son, Absalom.

In the space above, write what you think is the theme of verses 1-2.

Psalm 3:3-6. Theme: _____

1. Encircle the words King David used to describe God. (v. 3)
2. What can we learn about God in relation to our prayers? (v.4)

3. How is King David’s confidence upon the Lord shown in his attitude and actions? (vv. 5-6)

In the space above, write what you think is the theme of verses 3-6.

Psalm 3:7-8. Theme: _____

1. What does King David call upon the Lord do to? Underline the verbs. (v. 7)

2. What does King David declare about the Lord? (v. 8)

In the space above, write what you think is the theme of verses 7-8.

WALK: *Applying the Word*

Questions for Adults

1. In what ways are you experiencing opposition because of your faith in God?
2. How has God shown His faithfulness in answering your prayers?
3. What are some things that threaten your confidence in God? How can your confidence in God be protected/secured?
4. Individually and as a group, pray back this psalm to God. You could start by saying something like:

Father, I acknowledge that you reign in heaven. I praise you because you are all-powerful, all-wise and all-loving. But Lord, some of my friends reject you.

5. Pray for our country.

Questions for the Youth

1. Our teenage years contain overwhelming situations as we are exposed to new experiences and scenarios. How do you cope with overwhelming situations? What do you do or say when

faced with one?

2. God had allowed King David to grieve over an overwhelming situation. These were recorded in the psalms he composed. In your opinion, how much do our feelings matter to God?
3. King David remembered how God provided refuge when he needed it. While he was lamenting, he reminded himself of God's character. How can you remember God's power and love during overwhelming situations?
4. King David was able to be authentic, to be able to honestly express how he was feeling, with God because he had an intimate relationship with him. How is your relationship with God?

Questions for Children

1. In Psalm 3, David begins by telling the Lord how many enemies he has. When faced this kind of trouble, what did David do? To whom did he go to?
2. Are there people who want to hurt you or say bad things about you? Pray for God's protection to be with you and that they will stop being mean.
3. Think of one thing you are afraid of. If the Lord is with you, should you worry about anything? Pray to God to give you peace so you will not be afraid.
4. What is one thing you keep praying to the Lord about? List it down and keep on trusting Him because as verse 4 says He will answer you from his holy hill.