Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

October 26, 2025

A Prayer for Desperate Times

By Rickie Jenkins

Do not forsake me, O LORD; O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation" (Psalm 38:21-22).

You may think you've had a bad day, but it's nothing compared to the heartache David felt when writing Psalm 38. In this Psalm, David describes one of the darkest points of his life. With blunt transparency, he admits that some of his pain and confusion comes from his own sins and foolish decisions. In addition, his cup of heartache is filled up with the accusations and attacks of his enemies; even worse, his family and friends have turned their backs on him when he needed them most.

Where could he turn now? In a desperate cry for help, he turns to God. He seems to plead, "You won't forsake me, too, will You?" Everything in his life had gone wrong, and everyone had turned against him. In this moment of hopelessness, David asked for help and found hope in God.

"Your arrows have sunk into me." Guilt feels sharp—it cuts the heart, it lingers in the mind, it weighs down the soul. But conviction is a mercy. God doesn't let His children stay comfortable in sin. His arrows are meant not to destroy us but to bring us back to Him. God's hand can feel heavy. But it is never the hand of rejection for those who belong to Him. The same hand that presses us low is the hand that lifts us up again.

Our troubles may come from a wide variety of sources, but we don't want to experience them all at once the way David did! Whenever we feel hopeless, abandoned, misunderstood, betrayed, or incompetent, we can always turn to the One who is faithful to listen, to care, and to restore hope. This time of desperation wasn't the end of the road for David. Further, the times of desperation aren't the end for us either—if we turn our

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Our meeting with George Slover has been postponed until we are back in the building

Time Change – November 2

(flyers are being sent via email. If you need one and didn't get it let me know)

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

attention to God and express our trust that He will come through.

Sometimes it is said, "Well, I will just have to lean on the Lord."' It sounds like we are saying, "I don't know if God is enough." Like David, in our times of despair, the Lord is the One we need to turn to. He is the last option. He is the only option.

Additionally, guilt isn't our enemy. It is our friend. It is not always wanted or pleasant. But if used properly, it can lead to God who is merciful. He provides the answer to our sin and our weaknesses. He is not only Lord of our salvation but our comfort.

When we find ourselves under assault, He is our protection. He is our shield. He is our hope. He will lift us from deep despair to transcendent joy.

David cries, "Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation (Psalm 38:2). We sing, "Where could I go? Oh, where could I go? Seeking a refuge for my soul? Needing a friend to save me in the end, where could I go but to the Lord?"

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is at home and in a lot of pain.

Jimmy Stinnett is at home with some days better than others.

Dianna Jarrett had emergency surgery and has been home recovering.

Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Marcia Neuhaus, Dorthy Steadman, Dinah Williams

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization – we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

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