

THE GOSPEL OF ABUNDANCE  
Week 3

The heaviness of the history of God's own people turning away time and time again no matter what power or prophecy they had witnessed, leaves little hope for humanity to walk faithfully with God. The heaviness of our own sin and wrestling with the flesh leaves the same desperation for help.

Jesus did not lessen the requirements of righteousness. On the contrary, Jesus spent time expounding on the depth of righteousness we are called to, in the hidden places of our heart and mind. But not only did Jesus confirm our call to righteousness, He offered us a way to walk in it. Jesus offered help. He offered the entirety of Himself to help us. He promised to put His Spirit in us, who would teach us and help us, who would make His will our will. The abundant gospel is the offer of help!

*Psalms 46.1-5 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah*

*There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.*

Life will have challenges. Circumstances may greatly try us. It's not that these things won't affect us. Even the pause (Selah) in Psalm 46 gives place for reflection on the greatness of trouble. Perhaps place to even contrast what life would be like if you only lived in that rage of trouble. But the verse doesn't end there. In Christ we can leave the life of self-focus for a life focused on Jesus. And there in His midst we will find help, we will find peace.

This verse could be read as:

Unless God falls, she will stand. - **The people who live with Him in their midst will stand.**  
Unless God fails, she will continue. - **The people who live with Him in their midst will continue.**  
Unless God is removed, she will remain. - **The people who live with Him in their midst will remain.**

The abundant life is having God in our midst. God who is our help.

QUESTION: Is God in your midst? Are you focused on Jesus? What is stealing your focus?

QUESTION: Where are you lacking peace? Is it hard for you to see God in this area?

QUESTION: Where have you recently experienced God as your helper? Share a testimony.

QUESTION: Where do you currently need God's help?