



# lament

## DWELLING IN THE WORD

*A devotional resource for committees & teams*

### Psalm 31:1-5 (NRSV)

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;  
do not let me ever be put to shame;  
in your righteousness deliver me.  
Incline your ear to me;  
rescue me speedily.  
Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a strong fortress to save me.  
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;  
for your name's sake lead me and guide me,  
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,  
for you are my refuge.  
Into your hand I commit my spirit;  
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

### Psalm 42:1-3, 9-11 (NRSV)

As a deer longs for flowing streams,  
so my soul longs for you, O God.  
My soul thirsts for God,  
for the living God.  
When shall I come and behold  
the face of God?  
My tears have been my food  
day and night,  
while people say to me continually,  
“Where is your God?”  
  
I say to God, my rock,  
“Why have you forgotten me?  
Why must I walk about mournfully  
because the enemy oppresses me?”  
As with a deadly wound in my body,  
my adversaries taunt me,  
while they say to me continually,  
“Where is your God?”  
Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
and why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
my help and my God.

**1. Provide pencils/pens and a copy** of this handout to each team member.

**2. Read aloud a Scripture passage** from the suggestions to the left. Invite listeners to **circle words or phrases** that they notice as the Scripture is read.

**3. Allow a few moments** of silence for quiet reflection. Then, **share** your observations with each other.

**4. If time,** invite those present to **respond** to one or more of these questions:

- \* What stories or memories does this passage stir in me?
- \* What do I notice about the language, repetition, dialogue and descriptions?
- \* Where and when was this passage written? What conclusions might I make about the author?
- \* How might people from other cultures and generations hear this passage?

**5. Pause for prayer,** giving thanks for God's word shared here today.

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*What other theme would you like to consider?*

*Which Scripture verses could you read?*

*What questions might you ask?*

