

BUT...

Sunday, October 18, 2026

1. 1. God wants us to be honest with Him.

O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge.

Psalm 62:8 NLT

*9 Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. 10 Hannah was in deep anguish, **crying bitterly** as she prayed to the LORD... 12 As she was praying to the LORD, Eli watched her. 13 Seeing her lips moving but hearing no sound, he thought she had been drinking. 14 "Must you come here drunk?" he demanded. "Throw away your wine!" 15 "Oh no, sir!" she replied. "I haven't been drinking wine or anything stronger. But **I am very discouraged**, and **I was pouring out my heart to the LORD**. 16 Don't think I am a wicked woman! **For I have been praying out of great anguish and sorrow.**"*

1 Samuel 1:9, 12-16 NLT

2. 2. God wants us to be honest with Him and also with each other

*When we arrived in Macedonia, there was no rest for us. We faced conflict from every direction, with battles on the outside and **fear on the inside**.*

2 Corinthians 7:5 NLT

*For even when we arrived in Macedonia our bodies had no rest, but we were oppressed at every turn--conflicts and disputes without, **fears and dread within**.*

2 Corinthians 7:5 (Amplified)

*8 We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were **crushed and overwhelmed** beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. 9 In fact, we expected to die*

2 Corinthians 1:8-9a NLT

1 For the choir director: A psalm of David. O LORD, how long will you forget me? Forever? How long will you look the other way? 2 How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have the upper hand? 3 Turn and answer me, O LORD my God! Restore the sparkle to my eyes, or I will die. 4 Don't let my enemies gloat, saying, "We have defeated him!" Don't let them rejoice at my downfall.

Psalm 13:1-4

3. 3. **But - and there is a big BUT!**

5 When we arrived in Macedonia, there was no rest for us. We faced conflict from every direction, with battles on the outside and fear on the inside. **6 But God, who encourages those who are discouraged, encouraged us by the arrival of Titus.**

8 We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. 9 In fact, we expected to die. **But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead.**

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

1 For the choir director: A psalm of David. O LORD, how long will you forget me? Forever? How long will you look the other way? 2 How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have the upper hand? 3 Turn and answer me, O LORD my God! Restore the sparkle to my eyes, or I will die. 4 Don't let my enemies gloat, saying, "We have defeated him!" Don't let them rejoice at my downfall. **5 But I trust in your unfailing love. I will rejoice because you have rescued me. 6 I will sing to the LORD because he is good to me.**

Psalm 13

*13 Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the LORD has
compassion on those who fear Him. 14 For He Himself knows our frame;
He is mindful that we are [but] dust.*

Psalms 103:13 NASB