

ANCIENT MIND MODERN HEART

SUNDAYS, JUNE 3 - JULY 22

9 & 10:45 AM

7.22.18 • CRAIG REES • PSALM 130 "SHOUTING DISTANCE"

BOTTOM LINE

NO MATTER HOW
DEEP WE ARE IN GUILT,
SHAME AND DESPAIR
NOR HOW FAR FROM
GOD WE FEEL,
HE HEARS OUR CRY
FOR FORGIVENESS
AND OFFERS FULL
REDEMPTION

KEY VERSES

PSALM 130
1 JOHN 1:8-2:2

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your major takeaway from the message this morning?
2. Martin Luther, the German reformer, described this Psalm as a Pauline Psalm. Read the entire Psalm, listing key words and repeated phrases. Now look at the Psalm through the lenses of these words and phrases. How would you summarize its message? In what ways was Luther correct in his description of the Psalm?
3. Share of a time when you "cried" out to the Lord from the depths of your being (vv1-2). How did this experience influence your relationship with God? Do you find it easy to cry out to the Lord today? What makes crying out to the Lord easier or more difficult?
4. In verses 3-4 the Psalmist talks about sin and forgiveness. How would you describe the connection between these two ideas? What condition is necessary for forgiveness?
5. Verses 5-6 the Psalmist mentions waiting on the Lord, twice. How is the practice of waiting a part of your devotional life? How can we grow in our ability to wait on the Lord? Share some things that have proved helpful to you in developing your ability to wait.
6. Verses 7-8 move from the personal to the communal. Note that the Psalmist is no longer praying, but making a bold declaration to the people of God. In other words, he makes his experience the example for others. How have you taken your experience of God's forgiveness and made it a declaration and proclamation to others? What makes this easier or harder to do?
7. The Psalmist talks of "full redemption" (v7). Observing the repetition of ideas in verses 4 and 8, what is the connection between forgiveness and redemption? How does God redeem those things which cause us to cry out to Him for forgiveness? Is there a story of redemption that you could share?