

# HOPE

## HOME GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

**READ** Psalm 13

**SHARE** words, phrases, truths that stuck out to you; any questions you have; new insights.

**DISCUSS** the passage together.

1/ First talk about the concept of Advent (as a *waiting* season) versus how our culture usually celebrates the Christmas season. How is it comforting to know that Advent is a time of lament and waiting and expectation, than happiness and mirth and instant gratification?

2/ There are three movements to this Psalm: 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6. How would you characterize each?

3/ Talk about vv. 1-2. Do you feel the same liberty to cry out to God like David does? How can you make these two verses your own?

4/ Discuss vv. 3-4. What can we learn about prayer from these two verses?

5/ Discuss vv. 5-6. How do you think David gets to a place of confidence like this?

6/ Read the first 4 verses, and consider as a group how Jesus might have prayed this prayer. How does the life of Jesus deepen this psalm for you?

7/ Steadfast love (*hesed*) and salvation (*yeshua*) are what gives David his confidence in v. 5. Jesus is the fullest display of God's *hesed* and *salvation* of v. 5 - Jesus is even *named* salvation (Jesus is the name form of the hebrew word here for salvation). Discuss how focusing on Jesus helps you sing, even in hardship this Advent.

**APPLY** the text to your life (these questions from Redeemer NYC might help).

1/ How can I praise him?

2/ How can I confess my sins on the basis of this text?

3/ If this is really true, what wrong behavior, what harmful emotions or false attitudes result in me when I forget this?

4/ What should I be aspiring to on the basis of this text?

5/ God, why are you telling me this today?

**PRAY** together for the things you just shared, and also for anything else in your life.