



## SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS for Sunday, June 4, 2023

**Series:** Summer Playlist

**Sermon Title:** God is Our Rescuer

**Pastor:** Pastor Glyn Norman

**Primary Text:** Psalm 40

### **Theme/concept**

Scripture teaches us that God is our rescuer and is faithful to rescue us from situations. He saves us from our own sin, and we depend on his love, mercy and faithfulness. The Lord is sovereign.

### **Icebreaker (for groups)**

When have you experienced the faithfulness of someone dear to you? When have you been faithful in rescuing someone?

**Reflections on the sermon:** Which points from the sermon resonated with you?

**Scripture Passage:** Psalm 40 (NIV)

**For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.**

**1** I waited patiently for the LORD;  
he turned to me and heard my cry.

**2** He lifted me out of the slimy pit,  
out of the mud and mire;  
he set my feet on a rock  
and gave me a firm place to stand.

**3** He put a new song in my mouth,  
a hymn of praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear the LORD  
and put their trust in him.

**4** Blessed is the one  
who trusts in the LORD,  
who does not look to the proud,  
to those who turn aside to false gods.

**5** Many, LORD my God,  
are the wonders you have done,

the things you planned for us.

None can compare with you;  
were I to speak and tell of your deeds,  
they would be too many to declare.

**6** Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—  
but my ears you have opened;—  
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.

**7** Then I said, “Here I am, I have come—  
it is written about me in the scroll.

**8** I desire to do your will, my God;  
your law is within my heart.”

**9** I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly;  
I do not seal my lips, LORD,  
as you know.

**10** I do not hide your righteousness in my heart;  
I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help.  
I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness  
from the great assembly.

**11** Do not withhold your mercy from me, LORD;  
may your love and faithfulness always protect me.

**12** For troubles without number surround me;  
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.  
They are more than the hairs of my head,  
and my heart fails within me.

**13** Be pleased to save me, LORD;  
come quickly, LORD, to help me.

**14** May all who want to take my life  
be put to shame and confusion;  
may all who desire my ruin  
be turned back in disgrace.

**15** May those who say to me, “Aha! Aha!”  
be appalled at their own shame.

**16** But may all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you;  
may those who long for your saving help always say,  
“The LORD is great!”

**17** But as for me, I am poor and needy;  
may the Lord think of me.  
You are my help and my deliverer;  
you are my God, do not delay.

**Reviewing the Scripture:**

1. In verses 1 and 2 what actions did the psalmist describe that were done by our faithful God?
2. What emotions and feelings did the psalmist express in verses 3 and 4?
3. How did David summarize his Thanksgiving in verse 5?
4. In verses 6 - 8 what do we see that the Lord honors?
5. Summarize the actions of the psalmist in verses 9 - 10.
6. What does David request in verses 11 - 13?
7. In verses 14 - 16 what does David beseech his loving and faithful God to do? Do the verbs surprise you?
8. What are the desires of the psalmist's heart in verse 17?

### **Going Deeper:**

1. If you are comfortable, share a time when you waited patiently for the Lord.
2. What blessings have you received from the rescuing hand of God? Have you had a “Miry Clay” moment?
3. What sacrifices and offerings, as in verse 6, do people offer, or consider offering, to the Lord at times in their life?
4. Refer to John 4:34 for words of Jesus in the gospel that correspond with Psalm 40: 7 - 8. How can we tie these two passages together?
5. How does David describe the Lord's righteousness in verses 9 and 10?
6. How have you seen the Lord's Tender Mercies in your life as the psalmist did? Consider using verse 17 as a personal prayer this week.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, thank you for rescuing us and providing forgiveness and redemption for your people. You are faithful and full of love. Thank you for setting our feet on solid ground and for putting a new song to sing in our hearts. We put our trust in you and praise your name, Sovereign Lord.

In Jesus' name, –Amen–