

# Group Notes Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2008

## Psalm 3 S.O.S Prayer.

### Group questions

#### Upwards to God and Inwards to each other

1. Are we more likely to overstate the significance of the enemy's opposition in our lives or underestimate it?
2. How do you discern it?
3. In which are of your life are you most vulnerable?

I suggest you discuss these things but for a maximum of 20-30 mins so as not to create an over negative evening before then going onto looking as God as our sustainer and deliverer from Psalm 3 – see summary notes below. This should naturally lead into worship and prayer together.

#### Outwards to others.

Summer plans. Why not make plans to do a couple of things during August for whoever an the group is around plus some other friends as away of maintaining and developing friendships with people bearing in mind the opportunity for Alpha in the autumn.

Have a great time together and enjoy the summer!

### SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS

1. Gods people have an enemy. It is important to remember that trouble/difficulty/opposition may result from both sinful behavior and life issues or be test of faith (e.g. .Job) or be the result of enemy opposition. The enemy's favourite game is piggy-back – climbing on the back of human sin and creating a disproportionate problem much bigger than the original issue

Just as David's calling was to bring in God's kingdom on the earth in his lifetime so ours is the same.

We are called to live a godly life that speaks volumes (marriage family employment etc and to build a church that speaks volumes – meeting God in worship, changing lives in mission, building community in fellowship.

Just as in a rugby scrum you can lean half-heartedly or push with all your might so the same goes for us in church life.

If you are leaning rather than pushing – who and what is stopping you from pushing?

2. God is your sustainer (vs. 3-4).

1. God provides protection as our shield and by bestowing his glory on us.
2. Encouragement to lift our heads.
3. Answered prayer – Don't be afraid to cry out to God. David was very expressive.
4. Sustaining strength – the Lord sustains me. We can expect the same.
5. Faith that displaces possibility of fear. I will not fear the tens of thousands.

3. God is your deliverer (vs. 7 and 8).

This is full blooded prayer! From the Lord comes deliverance – the same word for salvation. We can echo David's prayer with heartfelt calling out to God for deliverance from situations and from evil.

How did David deal with his enemy?

1. Initially he fled to safety.
2. He gathered his forces –the friends and supporters
3. He called on God.
4. He responded to advice. (Don't go into battle yourself)

The outcome was complete deliverance.