

But then a mighty prayer warrior begins to pray. With confidence, he thanks God for His absolute control over all things. With tears, he pleads with God to work in the lives of those for whom prayer is requested. With honesty, he acknowledges that we don't always understand what God is doing. Like the psalmist, he turns a time of complaining over man's problems into a time of praising God for His listening ear. Prayer turns to praise because one saint believes that the Lord hears "the prayer of the destitute, and shall not despise their prayer" (Psalm 102:17).

Are you struggling with difficulties in your own life or the overwhelming problems of dear friends and loved ones? Learn to hand them over to the everlasting God. That's how to drive away those prayer-meeting blues. — Dave Branon

*Praise God's holy name forever!  
There is none that can compare  
To the blessing of His presence  
When we meet with Him in prayer. —Anon.*

**Although the outlook may be bleak, the uplook is always bright.**



## Central Mountains Baptist Church

# FEBRUARY 28, 2021

### Prayer-Meeting Blues

**Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come to You. —Psalm 102:1**

Prayer meetings can get you down. No matter how much you look forward to gathering with friends to pray, the requests can be disheartening. A missionary is having health problems. A child has cancer. A couple from your Sunday school class is getting a divorce. The missionary appointee is having difficulty raising financial support. And you have struggles of your own. The more requests you hear, the more weary you grow.





# Heart Song

## Reality Check

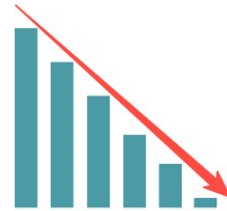
**(2 Corinthians 4:17-18)** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, (2 Corinthians 4:18) while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

A reality check enabled the Psalmist to make three choices that changed his experience:

### 1. To \_\_\_\_\_, verses 1-2, 24



**(Psalms 102:0)** A prayer by the afflicted man who is overwhelmed and talks about his troubles with the LORD. ... [ISV]  
**(Romans 8:26-27)** Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (Romans 8:27) Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.



Reality Check required?

### 2. To \_\_\_\_\_, verses 3-11

**(Romans 8:28-29)** And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:29) For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**(Genesis 1:1)** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**(2 Peter 3:10)** But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

**(1 Peter 5:7)** casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

**(Psalms 55:22)** Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

**(1 Samuel 1:10)** And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish.

**(1 Samuel 1:17)** ... "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him."

**(1 Samuel 1:18)** ... So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

**(1 Samuel 30:6)** Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, ... But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.



Focus on what matters



### 3. To \_\_\_\_\_ (on the \_\_\_\_\_), verses 12-28

**(Jeremiah 31:35-36)** Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name): (Jeremiah 31:36) "If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the LORD, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever."

**(Hebrews 13:5)** ... For He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU."

**(John 14:3)** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

**(1 Peter 1:3-5)** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (1 Peter 1:4) to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, (1 Peter 1:5) who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**(Hebrews 1:10-12)** And: "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS. (Hebrews 1:11) THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY WILL ALL GROW OLD LIKE A GARMENT; (Hebrews 1:12) LIKE A CLOAK YOU WILL FOLD THEM UP, AND THEY WILL BE CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT FAIL."

