LIVING HOPE
DEMENTIA CAREGIVER
SUPPORT COMMUNITY

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions & Opening Prayer - Volunteer
- Worship Music – *Come Jesus Come (Stephen McWhirter & the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)*
- Scripture Reading (Psalm 34:17-18 ESV) - Ed
- Teaching Video – *His Grace is Enough: God is Near the Brokenhearted*
- Open Discussion - Jackie
- Prayer Requests - Sharon
- Closing & Prayer - Jackie

God is Near
the Broken
Hearted
PSALM 34:18
The Daily Promise

Psalm 34 (ESV)

17 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.

The Holy God
Draws Near

The Holy God Draws Near

- God dwells with the lowly & contrite.

15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.
(Isaiah 57:15 ESV)

The Holy God Draws Near

- He is close to the brokenhearted - He heals & binds up their brokenness.

3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. (Psalm 147:3 ESV)

- He comforts those who mourn.

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4 ESV)

The Holy God Draws Near

- Being near God is our refuge.

28 But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works. (Psalm 73:28 ESV)

The Comfort
of God's
Presence

The Comfort of God's Presence

- God comforts us so we can comfort others.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (2 Corinthians 1:3–4 ESV)

The Comfort of God's Presence

- Even in dark valleys, God is with us.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (Psalm 23:4 ESV)

- God strengthens & helps us.

10 fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10 ESV)

The Comfort of God's Presence

- Jesus promised He wouldn't leave us alone.

18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." (John 14:18 ESV)

- God will never leave or forsake us.

6 "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6 ESV)

15
OPENING YOUR
HEART TO GOD
PRAYER

Opening Your Heart to God in Prayer

- Draw near to God & He will draw near to you.

8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. (James 4:8 ESV)

- God is near to all who call on Him.

18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. (Psalm 145:18 ESV)

Opening Your Heart to God in Prayer

- Prayer brings His peace to guard us.

6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4:6–7 ESV)

Opening Your Heart to God in Prayer

- Call to God & He will answer.

3 Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. (Jeremiah 33:3 ESV)

- The Spirit helps us pray in weakness.

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (Romans 8:26 ESV)

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean to you that God is "near to the brokenhearted" when you feel overwhelmed by your caregiving role?
- How have you experienced God’s comfort in moments when your situation hasn't changed?
- When you feel crushed or helpless, what scriptures or promises remind you that God sees & understands?
- How does knowing that Jesus promised never to leave us help you face each day as a caregiver?
- In what ways has prayer helped you sense God's nearness & peace amid stress or sorrow?

Discussion Questions

- In what ways/times has God been your refuge?
- Being a caregiver is a precious gift & sometimes a heavy burden. In what ways are you caring for yourself?
- Have there been times when you could not sense the presence of God when struggling or feeling burdened?
- How have experienced God's comfort in moments when your prayers seem unanswered or your situation is unchanged?
- How has God prepared (gifted) you for your role as a caregiver?

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