

The Orchard Church | 20 MacLoughlin Drive, Te Puke 3119 | p +64-7-5738961

8 Nov 26 | **When God Seems Absent** | **Psalm 77** | **Nelson Schonfeldt**

Groups & Families Discussion Questions

Follow along with the sermon and use these questions to dive a little deeper with your group, with your families at home or for your own personal reflection.

Sermon Notes: Can you identify the main point, the subpoints and application of today's message?

Life Group Questions

1. Conversation Starter: What's something you've kept that would look fairly worthless to someone else, but brings back a great memory for you?

2. Read verses 1–6. What stands out about Asaph's distress and his attempts to find comfort? Why might remembering happier days sometimes make our present struggles feel worse?

3. Read verses 7–9. What fears do you hear behind Asaph's questions? Why can it be hard to trust God when we're going through a difficult time?

4. Asaph's circumstances haven't changed, but his focus changes in verses 10. What does he choose to focus on? What helps you make that shift when your worries keep going around in circles?

5. Asaph looks back to the Exodus for reassurance about God's character. How can looking back to Jesus' death and resurrection help us trust God when our present experience makes us question?

6. Verse 19 says that God's footprints were not seen, yet verse 20 describes Him leading His people like a flock. How do these pictures help us understand God's presence and care? What might trusting Him look like in a situation where you cannot trace what He is doing?

7. What is something God has done that you want to remember when life gets hard? How could we help each other keep remembering His faithfulness?