

understanding is unsearchable” (Isaiah 40:28). “My thoughts are not Your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways” (Isaiah 55:8).

Lord, You are beyond my understanding. But I still wonder, have You turned Your back on the world? “God sits on His holy throne” (Psalm 47:8) and “rules by His power forever” (66:7).

Lord, I do believe You are ruling this world, but do You care about the pain? Have You forgotten to be good? I am “good and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon [Me]” (Psalm 86:5).

Yes, Lord, You have been good to me in countless ways, including listening to my doubts and questions about You.

The answers God gives us in His Word may not take away our sadness, but we can always rest in the truth that He is wise, sovereign, and good.

*God understands your heartache,
He knows the bitter pain;
O trust Him in the darkness,
You cannot trust in vain. —*

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Every loss leaves an empty space that only God's presence can fill



AUGUST 20, 2017

Faith Mixed With Doubt

When my close friend Sharon was killed in a car accident, my heart broke. I'm ashamed to admit it, but when life's circumstances hurt so much, my faith is often mixed with doubt. When Sharon died, I cried out to God with these questions:

Lord, I sure don't understand You. Why did You allow this death? “Have you not heard? The everlasting God . . . neither faints nor is weary. His





Heart Song

A Heart for God

On the basis of Psalm 86 we can say; When trials come, those with a heart for God, draw close to God in five ways:

1. They will _____ on God alone (for God has the _____ that we need), verses 0-4, 6-7, 16-17

(Matthew 5:3) "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."



Tim and Andrea Johnson



Betty Cuthbert

2. They will remember that God is _____ (and _____ Him with all assurance), verses 5, 13, 15



3. They will _____ Him alone (and so walk in _____), verse 11

(Joshua 1:7-8) "Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. {8} "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good



success."

(John 10:27) "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

4. They will _____ Him alone (and then will have nothing _____), verse 11

(James 1:5-8) "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. {6} But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. {7} For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; {8} he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

(Luke 12:4-5) "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. {5} "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!"

(Isaiah 30:15) "... In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." .."



5. They will remember God is _____ (and will _____ Him with enthusiasm), verses 8-10

(Psalms 86:10) "For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God."

