Sermon Summary

My God, My God!

Insights from Pastor Dwayne Hooper's Sermon

Even in the darkest moments, God is not absent. Pastor Hooper reminds us that Jesus' cry on the cross points us toward truth, not despair. It reveals that even when God feels distant, He is still present and at work. When we cry out to Him, we are not losing faith; we are holding onto it, trusting that He hears us and that the story is not yet finished.

1. What Feels Like Abandonment May Be Revelation

Jesus' words on the cross point beyond the moment to a larger truth. What feels like distance may actually be God revealing something deeper than we can yet understand.

Reflection: Where in your life does God feel distant, and what might He be revealing in that place?

2. Pain Is Multi-Layered and Real

Suffering is not limited to what we can see. Physical, emotional, and mental pain all carry weight, and God sees and cares about each one.

Reflection: What kind of pain are you carrying that needs to be acknowledged before God?

3. Crying Out to God Is Faith in Action

Lament is not weakness; it reflects relationship. Bringing honest questions to God keeps the connection alive and invites Him into our struggle.

Reflection: What honest question or prayer do you need to bring before God today?

4. God Is Near Even When He Feels Distant

Our awareness of God does not determine His presence. Like a loving Father watching over His child, He remains near even when we cannot see Him.

Reflection: How can you remind yourself of God's nearness in moments when He feels far away?

5. The Turning Point Can Happen in the Valley

A shift in focus does not require a change in circumstances. Even in the valley, we can turn our hearts toward God and choose trust over despair.

Reflection: What would it look like to turn your attention toward God in the middle of your current situation?

6. The Story Ends in Victory

Psalm 22 does not end in suffering, and neither does our story. Christ's work on the cross has already secured the outcome. Our hope rests in what He has finished.

Reflection: How does knowing that God has already secured the ending give you strength for today?

Today's Faith Challenge

Take a quiet moment to reflect on the insights above. Which truth speaks most clearly to your heart right now? Consider how God may be inviting you to trust Him more deeply, even in a season where His presence feels unclear. Let your response be one of honest prayer, steady faith, and renewed hope in the One who has already finished the work.

- Where do you need to cry out to God honestly right now?
- How can you hold onto faith when you don't feel His presence?