

YOUR SMALL GROUP, FAMILY, OR IN YOUR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY TIME.

God of the Hills & Valleys | Pastor Steve Wells | 05.09.2021 Replay message at: <u>http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages</u>

## Psalm 34:18 NIV

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

This morning Pastor Steve mentioned several verses such as Isaiah 43, referencing God's presence in the Valleys. Spend some time finding other Bible passages/verses like Isaiah 43 that also refer to God being the God of Hills & Valleys. (Find verses that support each.)

## Isaiah 43:2 NLT

"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.

When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown.

When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you"

## 3 Ways We Draw Close to God

(1) Hardships that Happen TO US. (Storms of life)

- Share about a hardship that happened TO YOU that allowed or forced you to grow closer to God.
- What was it about the hardship that made you grow closer to God?

(2) Transformation work that God is doing IN US. (Submitting to His Sanctification work in us.)

- What transformation(s) have you seen God do IN you?
- What transformations have you seen God do in the people around you?
- Is there a transformation happening within you now? Do you see a transformation happening within someone you know?

(3) God working THROUGH US. (Sharing Gospel, Serving others, Using our Gifts & Talents & Abilities for the Kingdom, as well as sacrificial giving.)

- What way(s) have you seen God work through you?
- Share how God has worked through someone you know (or in your group).

## Psalm 124:1-8 NLT

"1 What if the Lord had not been on our side? Let all Israel repeat:

2 What if the Lord had not been on our side when people attacked us?

3 They would have swallowed us alive in their burning anger.

4 The waters would have engulfed us; a torrent would have overwhelmed us.

5 Yes, the raging waters of their fury would have overwhelmed our very lives.

6 Praise the Lord, who did not let their teeth tear us apart!

7 We escaped like a bird from a hunter's trap. The trap is broken, and we are free!

8 Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Please share an "If the lord had not been on my side....." testimony of a time when God intervened and rescued you in the past.