Psalm 31:3-4 (NLT)

You are my rock and my fortress. For the honor of your name, lead me out of this danger. ⁴ Pull me from the trap my enemies set for me, for I find protection in you alone.

Psalm 31:5-6 (NLT)

I entrust my spirit into your hand. Rescue me, LORD, for you are a faithful God.

⁶ I hate those who worship worthless idols. I trust in the LORD.

Psalm 31:7-8 (NLT)

I will be glad and rejoice in your unfailing love, for you have seen my troubles, and you care about the anguish of my soul. ⁸ You have not handed me over to my enemies but have set me in a safe place.

Forgotten as THOUGH I were DEAD

Psalm 31:1-13

QUIZ...

What kind of Psalms are there?

Praise, Wisdom, Royal, Thanksgiving, Lament, Teaching, Acrostic, Imprecatory

What is Lament?

Response of Crisis, Grief, Despair, Sorrow, deep Regret

QUIZ...

Why should we study Psalms of Lament?

More psalms of Lament than any other kind

Teach that honesty about our pain and

brokenness is ok

Luke 23:46 (NIV)

Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.

When He had said this, He breathed His last.

→ Our Weakness and Brokenness should lead us to Dependence

⁵ Into Your hand I ENTRUST my life... (NET)

1 Peter 4:19 (NIV)

So then, those who suffer according to God's will

should **commit themselves** to their faithful Creator and **continue to do good**.

⁷ I will be glad and rejoice in Your LOVE, for You SAW my affliction and KNEW the anguish of my soul.

→ Where do we TURN to Make our Lives WORK

6 I hate those who worship worthless IDOLS.
 I TRUST in the LORD. (NLT)

→ HARD stuff is not always BAD but it is Still HARD stuff

John 16:33 (NLT)

I have told you all this so that you may have **peace IN ME**. Here on earth you

WILL have MANY trials and sorrows.

But take heart, because

I have OVERCOME the world.

Instead of giving God the silent treatment,
falling into either

DESPAIR (I can't DO this) or
DENIAL (everything's FINE),

Lament encourages us to talk to God about our struggles SO THAT we can REAFFIRM our TRUST in Him.

Simply stated, Lament is a prayer in PAIN that leads to TRUST.

M. Vroegop

There is a **HOPE** that lifts my **WEARY** head, A consolation strong against despair,

That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit, I find the Savior there.

Through present sufferings, future's fear, He whispers 'courage' in my ear.

For I am **SAFE** in everlasting arms, And they will lead me home.

Psalm 130:1-2 (NIV)

Out of the depths I cry to you,

O LORD;

² O Lord, **HEAR my voice**.

Let your ears be attentive to

my cry FOR Mercy.

2 Chronicles 20:12 (NIV)
O our God, will you not judge them?
For we have no power to face this
vast army that is attacking us.
We do not know what to do,
but OUR eyes are upon YOU.

Lamentations 3:20-23 (NLT)

I will never forget this **awful time**, **as I grieve over my loss**.

21 Yet I still DARE to HOPE when I remember this: 22 The FAITHFUL love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease.

²³ **GREAT** is **His faithfulness**; His **MERCIES** begin **afresh** each morning.