

## Wish you were... him?

- Wished you had someone else's experience?
  - particularly experience of God!
  - feel like you are second best?
  - feel like you've been thwarted in your desire to know more of God?
  - or that your experience of God is not what it used to be?
- I feel that quite often!

## When can I go and meet with God?

- The Psalmist shares something of that frustration - though for a different reason
  - he is being thwarted from meeting with God
  - by opposition and suffering
  - the joy and freedom he once knew has gone
  - and he is left gasping for God...
- The imagery is hot country imagery:
  - [gasping for water - Marseille!](#)
  - fridge with tap water in it!

## Response

- Confidence in God - even when it doesn't feel like it!
  - [v.5, v.11](#)
- Last week we saw: [Jesus' presence brings - peace, obedience, intimacy](#)
  - but how do we experience that?
  - in prayer...
  - [see v.8](#)
- And its a [fight](#) to do so
  - learning - not do this and it'll be sorted overnight
  - long term learning - like walking or reading...
  - not out of duty - for duty will kill - but out of a desire to know God more
- [Read from "The Fight", p.21...](#)
- We respond a little to the little longing for God we are initially aware of...
  - ...and see that grow
  - I believe this, though I don't know that I'd be able to say that's my present experience!
- Psalmist's ultimate goal is intimacy with God
  - a longing that is only satisfied by God
- Double awareness - of God's closeness and God's distance, of his reality and how remote he seems
  - feelings follow reality - [v.5, 11](#)
- Practise God's presence:
- "The Fight" (£5.99) and "Discipleship" (£7.99) are in print - Wesley Owen have a copy of each, so you go have a look!