

## Questions

1. Read Isaiah 60:1-4 and 2 Corinthians 4:5-6. What are the lives of God's people to be like in a dark world? What are some ways that you can fulfill this calling?
2. If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, besides saving you, what are some ways that you have experienced God's faithfulness, maybe even at times when you were not fully faithful?
3. Are there ways in which you see yourself in the psalmist, Ethan? God hears the questions and despair of His people. But how can you better bless Him and trust His faithfulness in those times of testing?
4. Describing man's evil in Isaiah 59, the prophet wrote, "We hope for light, but there is darkness" (59:9). But chapter 60 begins, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD shines over you." How is Isaiah showing us the promise of the gospel?
5. Read 1 John 1:5-7. Why is it necessary for believers to walk in the light?
6. Will you commit to continue praying for and serving Grace Bible Church as we move these coming months?

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## Celebrating God's Faithfulness

### Psalm 89

*Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor*

*May 3, 2026*

Three years from the start of the Arise & Shine initiative, we pause to celebrate God's faithfulness, and to recognize how our hope in all of life is rooted in the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness.

*Arise, shine*, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD shines over you:

<sup>2</sup>For look, darkness will cover the earth, and total darkness the peoples; but the LORD will shine over you, and his glory will appear over you. Isaiah 60:1-2

For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Psalm 89: A tale of two perspectives on God's faithfulness.

Ethan recounts God's promise of an abiding kingdom to David as an example of God's unending faithfulness (89:1-37).

Ethan sees Judah's current circumstances – with the Babylonians taking over – as a sign that God has ceased to be faithful to His people (89:38-51)

The psalmist reminds his readers that God is still worthy of our praise, even in times of suffering (89:52).