

FREE TO BE



Selective Hearing



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“It’s a special hearing aid. It filters out criticism and amplifies compliments.”



Selective Hearing



Selective Comprehension



YOUR EYES CHOOSE WHAT THEY WANT
TO SEE.



YOUR EARS CHOOSE WHAT THEY WANT
TO HEAR.



Selective Comprehension



“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.” (Romans 8:28–30, NLT)



Selective Comprehension



“What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won’t he also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God’s right hand, pleading for us.” (Romans 8:31–34, NLT)



Selective Comprehension



“Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.”) No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.” (Romans 8:35–37, NLT)



Selective Comprehension



“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38–39, NLT)



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Selective Comprehension



YOUR EYES CHOOSE WHAT THEY WANT
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Selective Comprehension



God causes everything... v27 NLT

Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? V35 NLT

(As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.”) v36 NLT



FREE TO BE

‘Mountain Moving Prayer’

Romans 8:28-39

Psalms 44:1-26

Pew Bible pg. 402



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



- 1. Reflection v1-3**
- 2. Determination v4-8**
- 3. Confusion v9-16**
- 4. Commitment v17-22**
- 5. Faith v23-26**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



1. Reflection v1-3

- ✓ Good 'rumours' whisperings of God's grace
- ✓ "you, you, you... your hand, your arm, your face, what God did
- ✓ read between the lines - yes they fought and worked hard- but it was you!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



1. Reflection v1-3

- ✓ God has been good to us at WBC!
- ✓ Yes – our forefathers worked hard, you are working hard
- ✓ But God gives the increase! He brings life



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



1. Reflection v1-3

- ✓ **It is only a building but it reflects God's provision for people seeking His face**
- ✓ **23 Stephen's ministers**
- ✓ **6 in the pastoral team**
- ✓ **So many others also extending love and care**
- ✓ **100's of volunteers for WBC kids and other ministries**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



1. Reflection v1-3

- ✓ **In 2016 projected ahead – how many would be here in 2021 & 2026 – to prepare**
- ✓ **We have exceeded 2026!**
- ✓ **Asked for 100 new believers!**
- ✓ **Even with that – we have exceeded what we thought it would look like in 2021!**
- ✓ **At least 35 baptized**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



1. Reflection v1-3

- ✓ **Not** about buildings or numbers
- ✓ It is about people!!!!
- ✓ People like you , that the Lord has saved, delivered, cared for, given hope
- ✓ Maybe just starting to stir in your heart!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



2. Determination v4-8

- ✓ **My, my, my**
- ✓ **I , we , us , our**
- ✓ **This is not just about the past Lord, it is about the future**
- ✓ **I personally make a choice**
- ✓ **We as a collective make a choice**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



2. Determination v4-8

- ✓ What about you this morning?
- ✓ What about us as elders, deacons,
Thrive, ministry teams, fellow servants?
- ✓ Visitors? Seekers?
 - ✓ You are my King & God- submission!
 - ✓ We make our boast all day – relationship
 - ✓ Intimacy!!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



3. Confusion v9-16

But now.....



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



3. Confusion v9-16

- ✓ Rejected, humbled, retreat, enemy, adversaries, plundered, devoured, scattered, sold, reproach, derision, byword, disgrace, taunts, reproach, revile,

✓ **All day long!!! v15**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



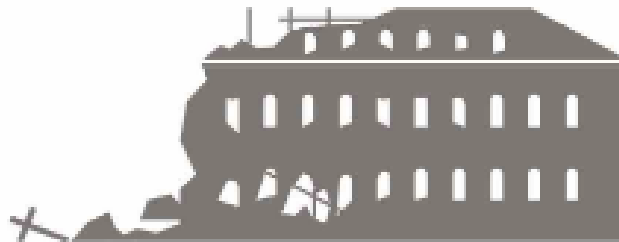
3. Confusion v9-16

EACH MONTH

322 CHRISTIANS ARE
KILLED FOR THEIR FAITH



214 CHURCHES AND
CHRISTIAN **PROPERTIES**
ARE DESTROYED



772 FORMS OF **VIOLENCE**
ARE COMMITTED AGAINST
CHRISTIANS *(SUCH AS BEATINGS, ABDUCTIONS,
RAPES, ARRESTS AND FORCED MARRIAGES)*



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



3. Confusion v9-16



'Your faith is half-hearted': Second Iranian Christian had asylum application rejected by the Home Office after saying 'Jesus could not protect her from the Iranian regime', lawyer claims



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



3. Confusion v9-16

- In five countries where the main dominating religion is Christianity, there is still a high level of persecution. In the African states of Ethiopia, Kenya and Central African Republic, Islamic oppression is rampant and in Mexico and Colombia organized crime and corruption have created a secular ideology that is intent on eliminating religious expression in the public domain and eliminating Christian involvement in social and political discourse.

From <<https://www.jpost.com/Christian-News/1-in-12-Christians-worldwide-persecuted-report-shows-533453>>



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



3. Confusion v9-16

What about the pain in this room?

- ✓ Disease
- ✓ Unemployment
- ✓ Children gone astray
- ✓ Broken marriages

- ✓ Bondage to sin?
- ✓ Loneliness
- ✓ Depression
- ✓ *'unanswered'* prayer etc. ???



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



3. Confusion v9-16

The Psalmist does not stop here! Neither should we!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

In many ways this part of his prayer
does **not** make it easier!!!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

“All this came down on us, and we’ve done nothing to deserve it. We never betrayed your Covenant:”
(Psalm 44:17, The Message)



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

- ✓ All the Psalmist is saying is “Lord, we don’t know of anything we have done that would break our fellowship”
- ✓ Not – self righteousness
- ✓ A clean conscience!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

**“Wouldn’t God have figured this out? We can’t hide things from him.”
(Psalm 44:21, The Message)**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

- ✓ A moment of reflection
- ✓ Even if in our pain
- ✓ Even if confused and hurting because of others pain
- ✓ Do I have a clean conscience?
 - ✓ Forgiven in Christ- Salvation
 - ✓ A clean daily slate- Sanctification



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

✓ Now the verse Paul quoted in Romans

“No, you decided to make us martyrs, lambs assigned for sacrifice each day.” (Psalm 44:22, The Message)



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

- ✓ The mountain is moved, the self is set aside!

“Yet for your sake ...” (Psalm 44:22, NIV84)



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



4. Commitment v17-22

- ✓ The mountain is moved, the self is set aside!
 - ✓ Christlikeness! Your will Father!
- “... “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”” (Matthew 26:39, NIV84)



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



5. Faith v23-26

- ✓ 5 imperatives!
- ✓ He 'dares' to 'command' God!
- ✓ Like last week 'Lord's Prayer'
 - ✓ You are God
 - ✓ I need you!



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



5. Faith v23-26

- ✓ **Awake!**
- ✓ **Rouse yourself!**
- ✓ **Don't reject!**
- ✓ **Rise up!**
- ✓ **Redeem us!**



A 'Model' Mountain Moving Prayer

Psalm 44:1-26



5. Faith v23-26

- ✓ The foundation of faith? The basis of it all?

“...because of your unfailing love.” (Psalm 44:26, NIV84)

Any Hebrew speaker will translate ‘unfailing love’

grace.



WBC Vision - #3 Prayerful

Part Two “Mountain Moving Prayer”



**Absolute Honesty – “this hurts
but I will trust you and your
grace!”
You are God...
I need you...**



FREE TO BE 'Mountain Moving Prayer'

Romans 8:28-39

Psalms 44:1-26

Pew Bible pg. 402

