

## May 9 Answers

- 1) David's psalms. In Psalm 38, David cried out to God in the midst of his misery and despair. God's hand of **discipline** was heavy on him, and the burden of his guilt was made all the more crushing by a physical **ailment**. David's sickness kept his loved ones "afar off," and it gave his enemies an opportunity to plot his downfall. What should we do when our sin has brought God's discipline and estranged us from our friends? How should we respond when our plight is of our own making and there is no one to blame but ourselves? This psalm has the answers to these questions. David teaches us that we should: (1) **confess** our iniquity and **repent** of our sin (Ps 38:18); (2) **mourn** the loss of a clear conscience and a right relationship with God (Ps 38:6); (3) **cast** ourselves on God's mercy and **cry** out to Him for relief (Ps 38:1); (4) remain **silent** before our enemies and **wait** for God to act (Ps 38:13–15); and (5) ask God to **save** us in spite of our foolishness (Ps 38:21–22). David's response to God's discipline is so instructive. Rather than giving up, David ran and threw himself into God's arms. That's what we need to do! Our sin should drive us closer to the cross, and our guilt should draw us nearer to God's side. He truly is our salvation! (Ps 38:22).