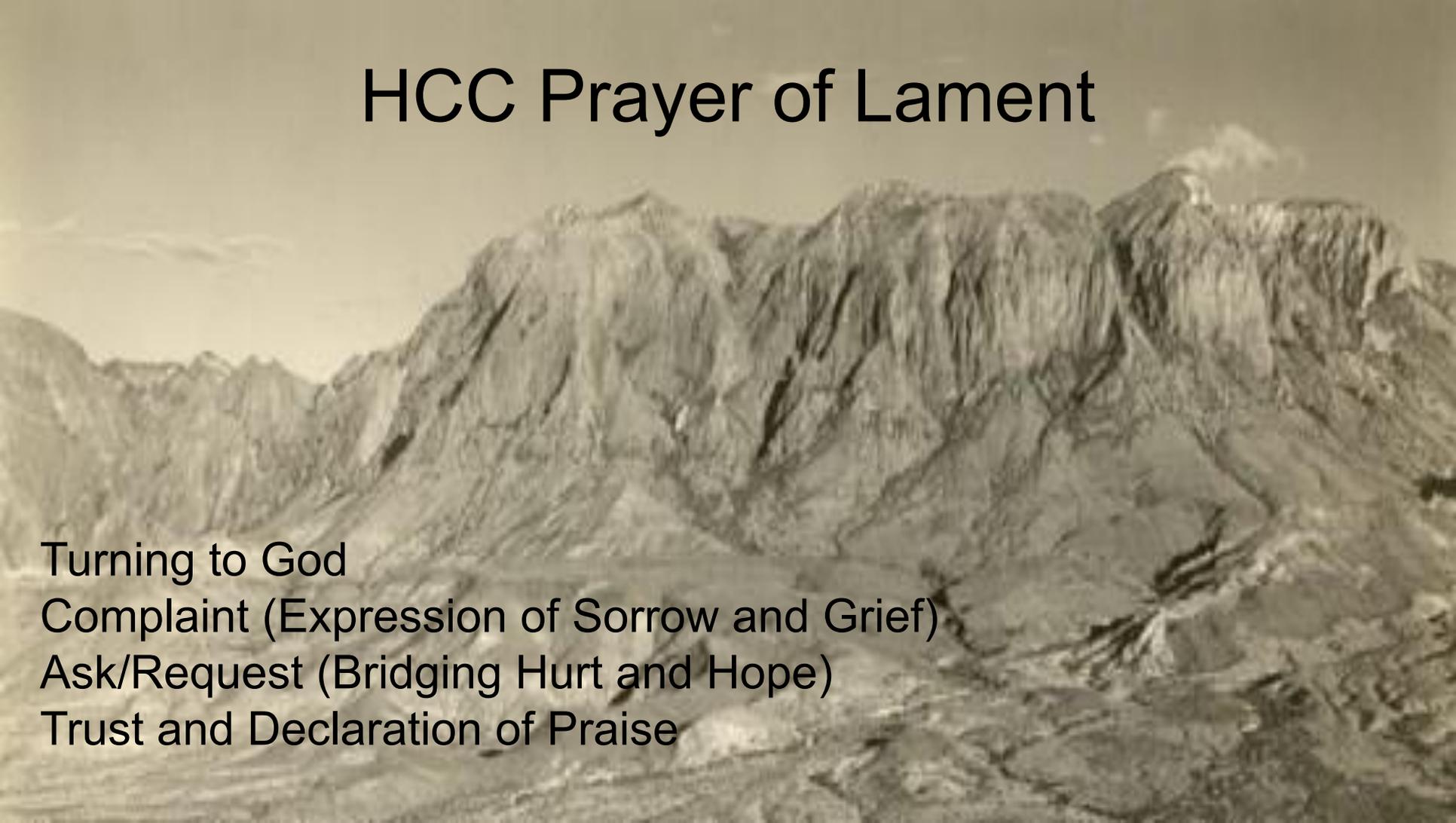


HCC Prayer of Lament



Turning to God

Complaint (Expression of Sorrow and Grief)

Ask/Request (Bridging Hurt and Hope)

Trust and Declaration of Praise

Part 1: We turn to you, O God!

I will choose to come to You when I am sad and hurting. Lord, I come to you, for where else can I go? Lord, I have made You my Rock for life, no matter what I feel and what is going on. In faith I come now. I am lost and confused. I need guidance. I come to You for You are the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Psalm 130:1 “Out of the depths I have cried to you. Lord. Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my petitions.”

Psalm 123:1 “To you I do lift up my eyes, you who sit in the heavens.”

Part 2: Complaint (Expression of Sorrow and Grief)

Why do we always have to wonder about finances? How long should I face the enemy? You said you are the truth, but what I see is the deceiving spirit which goes into people's minds. You said that you see, that you are everywhere, that you have all power. But Lord, it feels like the enemy is everywhere with this virus, bringing death, and bringing destruction. How long will we be separated from others? You are a God of relationship, but I feel alone. I am lost and confused and I need guidance, I come to you because you are the way the truth and the life. You said you'd take care of your people, but the poor are suffering so greatly. Relationships are being cut off and we feel lonely. Why are we fearing something we can't see? God, why do people mock you? Help me to be kind to my husband when he has short term memory loss. Let me remember how he's always been my rock and that he needs me now. You are a God of order but this is a mess. You said You're a God of unity and life, but instead we find ourselves divided and bored. God, my heart with these fears and worries, it seems like I can't see hope in the future. God when are we going to see purpose in all of this. I miss my family and friends and community and friends. If you say you're a God of peace why do we see such fear and division within us and within the church? Lord I need an answer. How do I care for our staff how can we pay them? How long will it last? I see distance and am not able to help others in need. When will we be able to see and embrace each other again? We took it for granted to receive touch.

Part 2: Complaint (Expression of Sorrow and Grief)

God, how can people not believe what leaders say about the virus and be willing to infect others? Lord teach me how to lament and pray at this time. You are a God of provision but we see so much need and lack of provision for families in need. I feel out of control and worried for those I love. Why God are you not declaring yourself in a clear way to us and to people who do not know you? You have promised to keep your children. Why are our children leaving you and not coming back? Oh God, why have you kept our family away from us when we need their help the most? Lord why aren't you answering our prayers? Why are you abandoning children and women? You're our protector, but we don't see your protection. You are capable of taking this away, but we don't see that happening. Why are so many people starving? Why are you not intervening? Why are those with resources not helping those in need? When will you bring the cause of the weak to the surface Lord? Why do you allow wars to drive people from their country and then be persecuted in the places they find refuge? Lord why are you giving so much power to the devil? Lord, we are overwhelmed with everything! We are stressed with work and new challenges. Where are you when people are dying alone, and Muslims don't know who you are? Why are our leaders putting profit and personal gain before people and their needs? I know Lord that you speak, but why do I often not hear you?

Part 2: Complaint (Expression of Sorrow and Grief)

How long until we can worship together again? How long until we can travel and see family again? How long until we can set appointments and make plans without concerns? How long until physical interaction returns? Why do we not get to feel the peace that passes all understanding? Where are you in our time of need? How long until people stop dying in isolation without loved ones? I know you are kind, but I don't see a lot of your kindness right now. You say you care for the poor, but it seems they are suffering the most right now. How long will people's livelihoods be taken away?

Part 3: Ask/Request (Bridging Hurt and Hope)

Restore us into stronger communities. Lord, would you supernaturally provide for your people in need during this time? Bring us comfort as we are separated from others. Do something beyond what we can see or expect. Jesus, you are the light, nothing is hidden from you. God restore the hearts of the people, to seek Him and find Him. What should I learn from this situation and how can I be a light for other people? Arise up God and show yourself to people who don't know you. In the end, everything will turn and return to you. Arise O Lord, restore to us life, hope, joy, health, dreams. P.S., kill the virus today! God please continue to act in this world and bring more people to know Jesus. Lord protect Egypt from this virus escalating and spare us from experiencing the challenges of other countries. Please grant us wisdom so we would know what to do and awaken our hearts to listen to yours. Open our eyes to see what you want us to see. Help us not to fear but to fear you. Remember Lord your covenant of your blood and heal our land. Father, as a loving Father, shorten the days and grant grace to those who are groping around in hopelessness, and reveal your face to them. That they may see you and come to hope in You. Teach me patience, O Lord, for myself and for people around me. Lord do not be silent anymore. Arise O Lord, go after our children - bring them back and restore them. Help us to be steadfast.

Part 3: Ask/Request (Bridging Hurt and Hope)

Lord you are the Provider, provide for people's needs during this time of need. Rise up and show yourself to hungry hearts who are seeking you during Ramadan, though they don't know you. We pray for unity in your body rather than the isolation we are experiencing now. This was your prayer, Lord Jesus. God provide opportunities to show your love during this time. Remember your covenant, that you are the God of the wicked; You are the righteous One, so grant the wicked your help and do not leave them in need and fear. Increase our faith. Help us to see what is unseen. Make us a new creation through this disorder. God, we ask that You would make Yourself known by uniting the church to raise up the poor and that you would break the bondages of sin. God come to our aid: open the borders, give us rest, bring help. Oh, Lord, you promised a harvest. Do not be silent during this time, speak into the hearts of people. God don't be silent, we want to see your power move throughout this world. We want you to show your glory through this virus, but we also ask, that you'll bring it to an end quickly. We ask that you would bring the suffering of refugees and women and children to an end and that you would be their protection. Help us to see more clearly how you're moving - we want to see examples of your goodness and love. Lord would you show your justice, and would you help us to understand your ways and to trust you? Would you give us wisdom to know what to ask for in this virus?

Part 3: Ask/Request (Bridging Hurt and Hope)

Teach me who you want me to be in this time and to the people I am relating to in this time, for your glory. Help me to trust that you are working, and that you will always do what is right. Remember, O Lord, your covenant with us, that you will be with us in our sorrow. Lord restore our relationship with you and bring healing to those who have lost loved ones. God during this desperate time, cause people to turn to you especially in this month of Ramadan. Lord you made good things, not bad. Bring many blessings out of this bad situation, so that evil will be overcome, so that we and many others will marvel at your goodness. Please stop corona. Give us faith to believe and show us how you are still working. Please help life be normal again soon. Please help us learn all we need to learn through this time. Please help us see people again quickly. May I understand and know you more through these times. Arise, O Lord, and destroy the coronavirus. Give us the opportunity to know you more. Don't be silent to those who are feeling neglected and ignored. Please help the doctors find a cure. Use this shaking of cultural priorities to destroy idols and false religions. Please help all the medics with so many stresses and fears. Please help us stay healthy. Help us to focus on the bright side. Teach us your ways. Use this opportunity to bring healing to governments and business and institutions.

Part 4: Trust in God (Declaration of Praise)

Yet our family trusts in You. You are my rock, my refuge my strength. You have not left us as orphans in this world. Yet I will trust you. Yet my soul will find refuge in you. But you remain right and good in all you do. I don't know how long this is going to last or how you are going to accomplish your purposes, but I know you WILL accomplish them. I know you have a plan for us in the midst of this and I believe you will draw us to yourself. But Lord, you are good, present and stable. In times of uncertainty and change we trust you will bring us through today. God I know you are good. You are faithful. You keep your promises. Today I choose to trust you. I know you'll come through. Based on my whole life I know you are with me and I just need to move closer and take time and spend it with YOU. You are still God and I will trust in YOU alone.

