

III. By admitting that we, too, are God's struggling children!

- **Moses:** Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. **2** And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron.... **4** And they said to one another, "Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt."**5** Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the people of Israel. (Numbers 14:1-5; see also 16:1-4, 16:16-22; 20:1-6)
 - We don't have it all together: we _____ on God's _____.
- **David:** And David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! **33** Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand! **34** For as surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there had not been left to Nabal so much as one male.... And he said to her, "Go up in peace... See, I have obeyed your voice, and I have granted your petition." (1 Sam 25:32-35)
 - We don't have it all together: we _____ correction.
- Have mercy on me, O God / according to your steadfast love; / according to your abundant mercy / blot out my transgressions. **2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity / and cleanse me from my sin! **3** For I know my transgressions, / and my sin is ever before me... **10** Create in me a clean heart, O God, / and renew a right spirit within me. **11** Cast me not away from your presence, / and take not your Holy Spirit from me. **12** Restore to me the joy of your salvation, / and uphold me with a willing spirit. (Psalm 51)
 - We don't have it all together: we _____ sin _____.
- **Jehoshaphat:** "O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you....**10** And now behold, the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir... [are] coming to drive us out of your possession, which you have given us to inherit. **12** O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." (2 Chronicles 20:6-12)
 - We don't have it all together: we _____ toward God's _____.
- **Paul:** The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. **16** But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:15-16)
- **9** But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Corinthians 12:9)
 - We don't have it all together: we _____ on God's _____ and _____ in God's _____

IV. By being vulnerable, like Jesus

- When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled... **35** Jesus wept. **36** So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" (John 11:33-36)
- "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. (John 12:27)
- Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane... And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." (Matthew 26:36-37)