



TIMELESS TRUTH TRANSCRIPTS
August 2009 – Florence
Psalm comfort

The Old Testament book of Psalms was written by real people, with real experiences, living in the real world. Hi, I'm Florence MacKenzie at Equipped for Living, and these people experienced the same ups and downs as we do and had the courage to be honest about it. In fact, that's one of the things that is so great about the psalms – the honesty which the writers reveal. Whether their experience was distressing and apparently hopeless (like Asaph in Psalm 77), or painful and repentant (like David in Psalms 32 and 51), or sensitive to the shortness of time and the awesomeness of God (like Moses in Psalm 90), the transparent honesty of the writers shines through. More than that, though: because each of these people wrote under the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit, we know that their ways of expressing feelings of hopelessness, pain, and praise is acceptable to God. This means we can confidently "borrow" their language in our worship times. Why not get familiar with the psalms – right now?

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August 2009 – James
Integrity

What do you think our society needs? I'm sure there are many different answers to this question, but near the top of the list must be - men and women of integrity. It seems that no matter where we look in the world of politics, or sport, or even in the church, men and women of integrity are hard to find. In the Old Testament book of Ruth, we meet a man of integrity called Boaz. Firstly, Boaz was prepared to give outward expression to his faith. How many bosses start the day by wishing God's blessing on their workers as Boaz did? Then, although Boaz was wealthy, he certainly wasn't tight-fisted and had a concern for those in genuine need. A third characteristic of his integrity was his complete moral purity in dealing with Ruth, a vulnerable young woman who was entirely dependent upon him. Finally, he single-mindedly and promptly fulfilled his responsibilities to distant family members. God wants you and me to be people of integrity. Only then will we have an influence on the corrupt society in which we live. This is James MacKenzie at Equipped for Living.

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