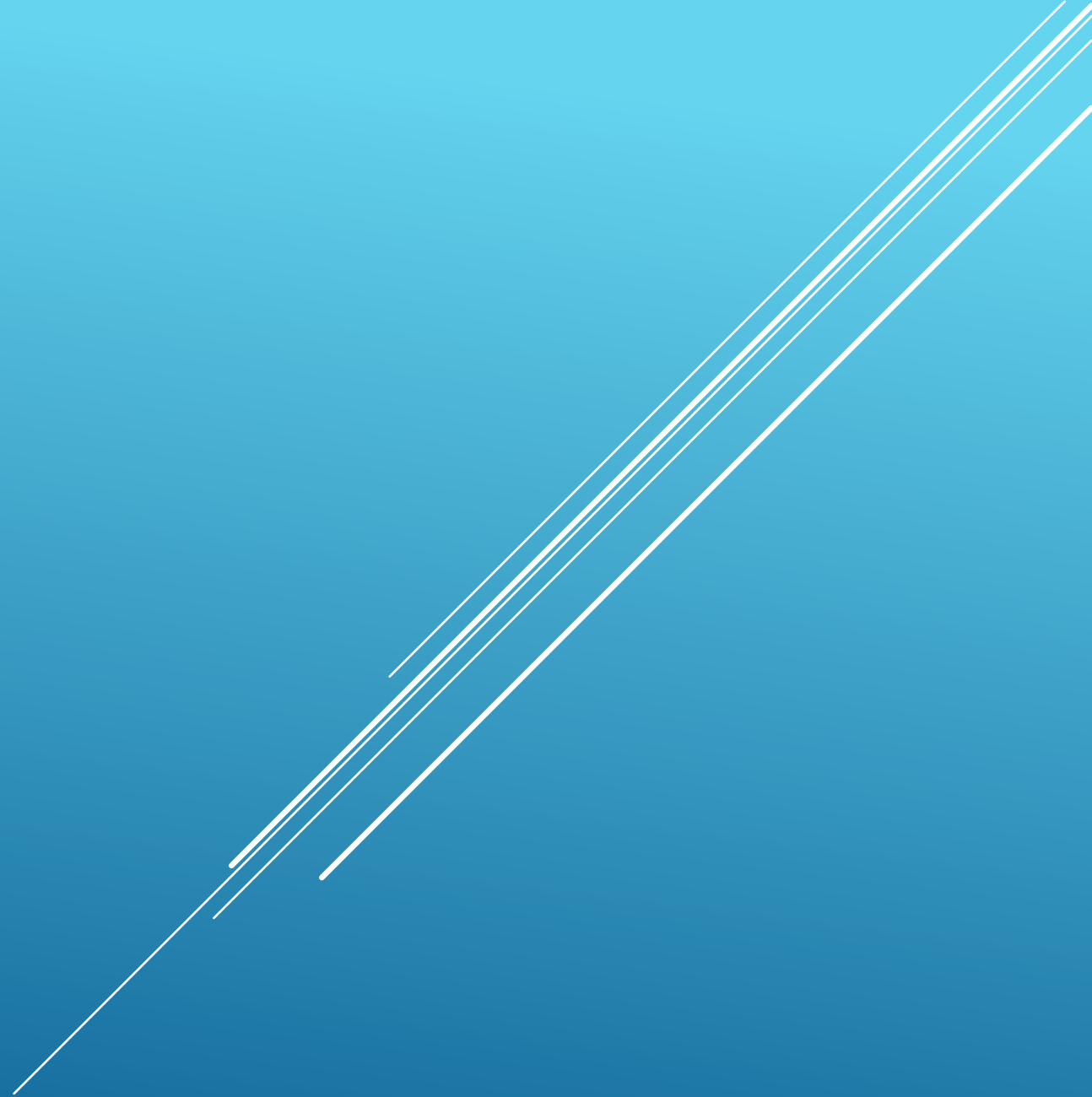
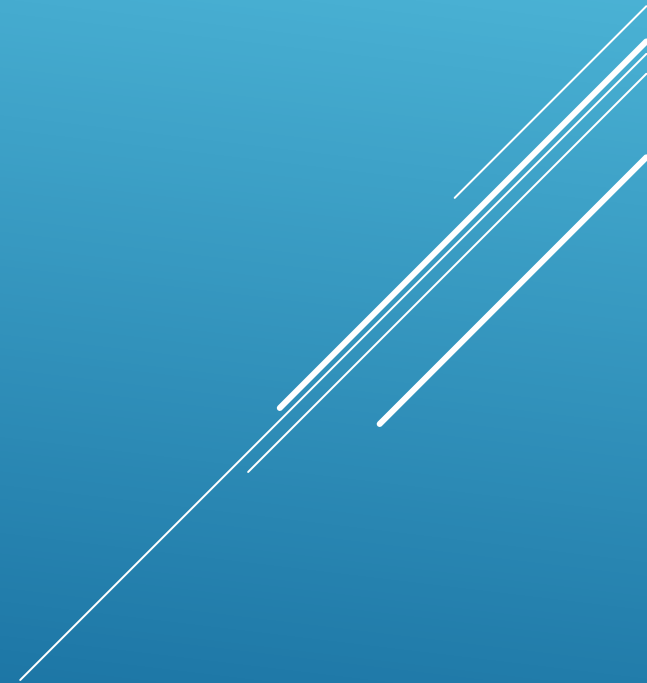


THE GOD OF OUR
CIRCUMSTANCES
PSALMS 56



- ▶ A preacher was building a wooden trellis on which some vines he had in his back yard could grow in his garden
- ▶ He was pounding a way with his hammer, and the noise attracted a little boy from next door
- ▶ The boy was quiet and didn't say a word as the man kept driving in nail after nail
- ▶ Finally, the preacher broke the silence and asked the boy, "are you trying to get some tips for making your own garden?"
- ▶ "No," he replied, "I'm just waiting to see what the preacher says when he hits his thumb with a hammer!"



THE LESSON IS THIS:

- ▶ The boy was waiting to see how the preacher would respond to pain, or the change in circumstances

THE WORLD IS THE SAME WAY!

- ▶ It watches how we respond or act when we have to deal with suffering, pain, unfair treatment, rebellious children
- ▶ The world expects to see resentment, anger, acting out
- ▶ But that is not what the world wants to see
- ▶ The world wants to see people—who have their same struggles—generate grace, mercy, and inner strength, and therefore give *them* hope and methods of dealing with their own struggles

WE FAIL!

***We Fail to Live Up To The Potential That
God Has Given To Us When Life Seems
To Deal Us A Bad Hand!***

***That's Why We Have Good Scriptural
Examples***

Romans 15:4

TOO OFTEN

- ▶ Remember, at this time, David was on the run for his life

1 Samuel 21:10-22:1

- ▶ In 1 Samuel 21, when David reached Gath, he hadn't counted on two things

#1 Being recognized; Remember Goliath was from Gath and now David had Goliath's sword, with which he had killed him, in his possession

#2 That his reputation would precede him. The Philistines even remembered the song that was created to honor David

SO NOW DAVID HAD TWO PROBLEMS,

WHERE HE HAD COME FROM (THE HOME OF SAUL) AND WHERE HE WAS LIVING (THE HOME OF GOLIATH)

DAVID'S LIFE IS A CLASSIC EXAMPLE!

“Be merciful to me, my God, for my enemies are in hot pursuit; all day long they press their attack. My adversaries pursue me all day long; in their pride many are attacking me.”

“All day long they twist my words; all their schemes are for my ruin.”

Can You Hear David’s Frustration Bleeding Through?

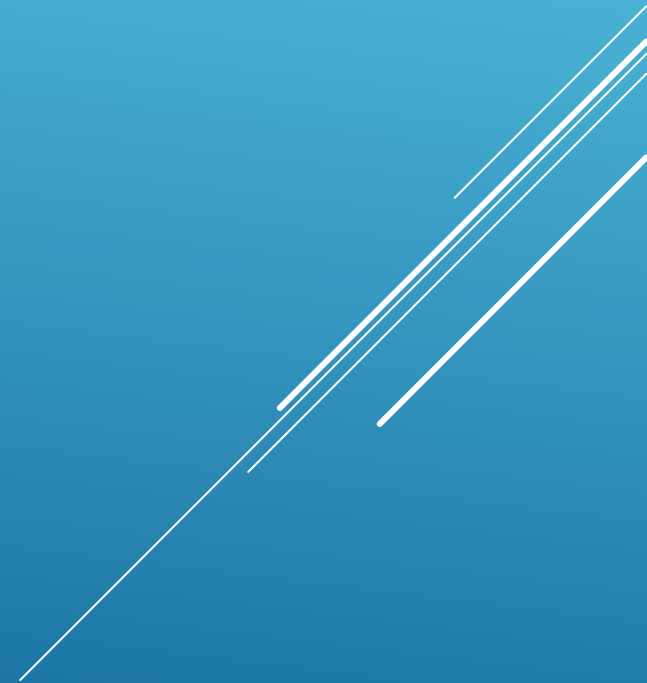
“This is not right!”

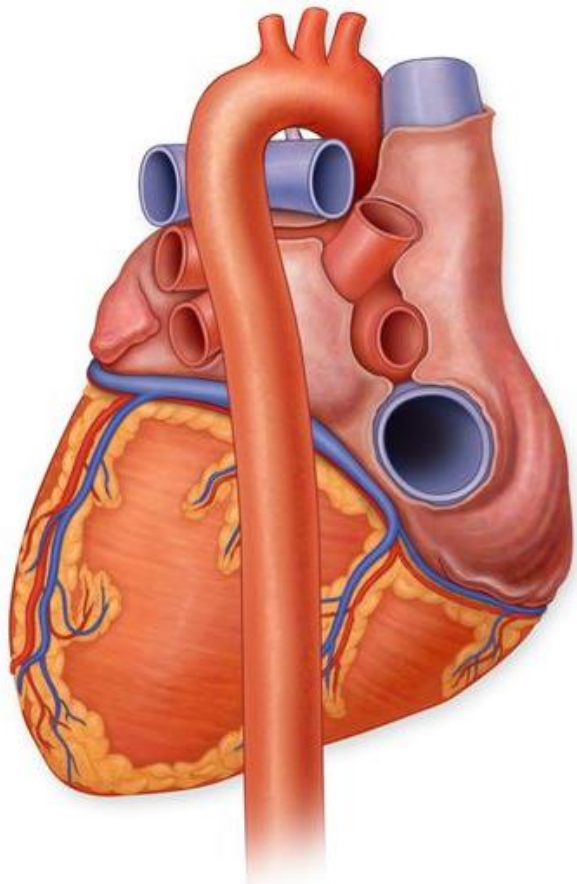
“I don’t deserve this.”

“At this time in my life, it’s unfair for me to be treated this way!”

**LOOK AT DAVID’S FRUSTRATION
IN PSALMS 56:1-2;5-6**

CIRCUMSTANCES
AND/OR ILLNESSES
CAN BRING US TO
OUR KNEES!

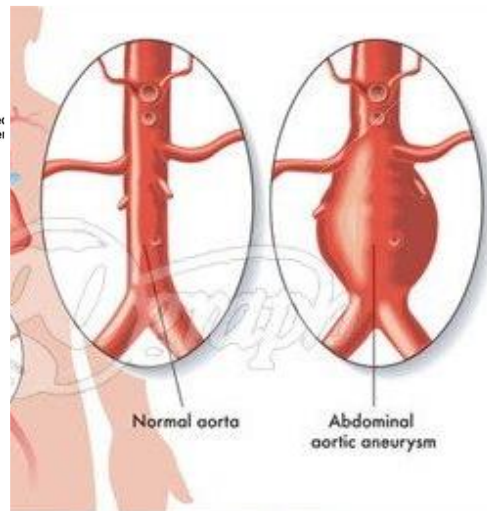
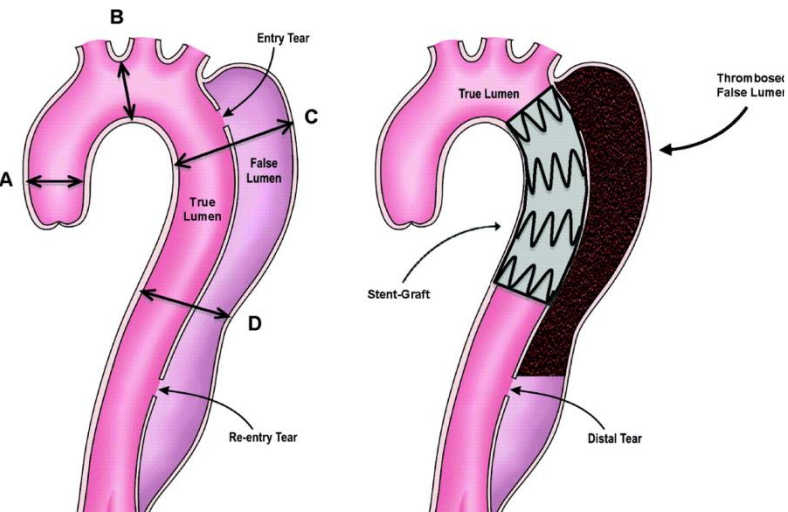




DISSECTING AORTIC ANEURYSM

*"Lord this isn't fair!" "This is not right!"
"Lord, dad doesn't deserve this!"*

Endovascular Stent-graft in type B-Dissection



MY LIFE WAS ROCKED IN 1987!

- ▶ Being attacked at work, or at home, or both places!
- ▶ People watching and monitoring your every move!
- ▶ Enemies waiting for the right moment!
- ▶ Circumstances happen that you can't control (there are issues you may have at work, but you **have** to work)
- ▶ David admits his fears, vs 3, ***“But when I am afraid, I put my trust in you.”***



DAVID KNOWS HOW WE FEEL!

Friction: The #1 Killer of Workplace Productivity

#1 God is Aware Of Our Circumstances

(NIV,MSG) verse 8

Record my misery;(You've kept track of my every toss and turn through the sleepless nights), list my tears on your scroll—are they not on your record(Each tear entered in your ledger, each ache written in your book)

- ▶ He cares so much about you that He puts your tears in a bottle
- ▶ He records your heartaches; things that happen to you don't catch God by surprise

CHRISTIANS HAVE TO LIVE WITH A
DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE!

“Then my enemies will turn back when I call for help.

By this will I know that God is for me.”

Vs 9

In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord whose word I praise—

In God I trust and am not afraid.

What can man do to me?”

Vs 10

GOD FIGHTS YOUR BATTLES!

.... *“For He Himself hath said, “I will never leave you or forsake you
(work, home, school, sick) so we may boldly say:*

“The Lord is my helper;

I will not fear.

What can man do to me?”

Hebrews 13:5-6



WHEN WE FAIL IN TIMES OF TROUBLE, WHO LEAVES WHO?

*Verse 12 David vows commitment to God
“Vows made to you are binding upon me, O God....”*

**#2 HERE IS MY QUESTION: IF GOD IS
SO COMMITTED TO US:**

“Behold (look), the Lord’s hand is not shortened (amputated), that it cannot save;

Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

But your iniquities have separated you from your God;

And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear, (listen anymore to you).”

ISAIAH 59:1-2

*“Let the wicked forsake his way,
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;
Let him return to the Lord,
And He will have mercy on him;
And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts.....”*

ISAIAH 55:7-9

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent Of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

