

# Psalm 40

## Opening Question

1) As a child, what “big deal” do you remember waiting for your Mom or Dad to do with you or for you? How did you feel when the planned event actually happened?

## **READ Psalm 40**

- 1) What subtitle would you give to the first 10 verses? What subtitle would you give to verses 11-17?
- 2) What kind of trouble was the Psalmist in that caused him to cry out to the Lord in the first place (v.1)? What happened (vv.2-3)?
- 3) What effect did the answered prayer have on him and what did he do in response (vv.4-10)?
- 4) When have you recently experienced an answer to prayer? What did you do in response?
- 5) What effect did the Psalmist hope his experience & response would have on others? Explain.
- 6) Why the sudden transition in verse 11? How does he response to this sudden turn of events? What does he ask the Lord to do?
- 7) What connection, if any, can you see between how the psalm begins and how it ends?
- 8) What in your life feels like you're in a “slimy pit” (v.2) or makes you feel “poor and needy” (v.17)?
- 9) How might the psalmist's example, of remembering God's answers to prayer in the past, help you face your present difficulties?