Silver Creek Fellowship
NOTES

November 22

THE SONG OVER THE WAITING

Movement 1: Waiting Can Make Us Believe God Is Doing Nothing.

Zephaniah 1:12 (NIV) *"At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The Lord will do nothing, either good or bad.'"*

Zephaniah 3:1-4 (NIV) *"Woe to the city of oppressors, rebellious and defiled! She obeys no one, she accepts no correction. She does not trust in the Lord, she does not draw near to her God. Her officials within her are roaring lions; her rulers are evening wolves, who leave nothing for the morning. Her prophets are unprincipled; they are treacherous people. Her priests profane the sanctuary and do violence to the law."*

Zephaniah 3:7 (NIV) *"Of Jerusalem I thought, 'Surely you will fear me and accept correction!' Then her place of refuge would not be destroyed, nor all my punishments come upon her. But they were still eager to act corruptly in all they did."*

Zephaniah 3:12 (NIV) *"But I will leave within you the meek and humble. The remnant of Israel will trust in the name of the Lord."*

Movement 2: Waiting Is Made Possible by the God Who Is With Us.

Zephaniah 3:14-15 (NIV) *"Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm."*

Isaiah 43:2 (NIV) *"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."*

Romans 5:3-5 (NIV) *"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."*

Psalm 23:4 (NIV) *"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."*

The One who is with you is the King.

Movement 3: The God Who Is With Us Sings Over Us.

He does not only tell us where God is. He tells us what God is doing.

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV) *"The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing."*

God does not merely put up with His people. He delights in them.
God does not merely endure His people. He rejoices over them.
God does not merely stand near His people in silence. He sings over them.

Four Things God Does For His Weary, Waiting People:

1. **He is present.**
   "The Lord your God is with you."

2. **He is strong.**
   "The Mighty Warrior who saves."

3. **He quiets you with His love.**
   "He will quiet you with His love."

4. **He rejoices over you with singing.**

Closing: The Song Is Louder Than the Silence.
Zephaniah 3:18-20 (NIV) *"'I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals, which is a burden and reproach for you. At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honor in every land where they have suffered shame. At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,' says the Lord."*