

## “How to be faithful in your golden years” (Psalm 71)

**Verses to Remember:** “But as for me, I will hope continually, And will praise You yet more and more. My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness And of Your salvation all day long; For I do not know the sum of them. I will come with the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD; I will make mention of Your righteousness, Yours alone. O God, You have taught me from my youth, And I still declare Your wondrous deeds. And even when I am old and gray, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to all who are to come.” (Psalm 71:14-18).

### Notes and Scripture references

- This Psalm involves a difficult trial with temptations to doubt (vv. 9, 12). We need to understand that those who have walked with God their whole lives can still face very real troubles, doubts, and trials. We need to pray for them and be there for them. In this Psalm, even though there seems to be temptation to doubt, and calls for him to doubt by his enemies, we see an expression of hope and faith. How can we have that also?

### How to be faithful in your golden years

#### 1. Know

- Know who God is. God is his refuge, righteousness, rock of habitation, “my rock and my fortress,” “my God,” “my hope,” “my confidence,” “my strong refuge.” Who is like him? (Cf. Ex. 15:11; Mic 7:18; Ps 35:10; 77:13; 89:6; 113:5).  
 - Know what God has done for you your whole life (vv. 5-6, 15, 17. 19-20).  
*Remember when God has been your refuge, righteousness, rock of habitation etc. If you are not in your golden years yet, and even if you are, write it down when God shows himself, so that you can remember and praise him in faith.*

#### 2. Grow

- Our goal is not to stand still at any age, but to have our faith grow and our praises to God grow more and more (v. 14). We need to grow now so that we can be better prepared for the difficulties to come, like losing people and health. We need to grow **to the** trials and then grow **through the** trials.  
 - We need to learn from other people. *Who are you learning from? Who could you be learning from? What do you still have to learn? In what areas do you need to grow? (You may need to learn what you need to learn.)*

#### 3. Show

- The Psalmist’s great desire is to show God to the next generation (vv. 15-18). *If you are in your later years, are you showing God to the next generation? If you are younger, are you watching the older ones who are praising God faithfully?*