

INSTEAD OF

1. READ THE PASSAGES.

¹⁶But the Master, God, has something to say to this: "Watch closely. I'm laying a foundation in Zion, a solid granite foundation, squared and true. And this is the meaning of the stone: a trusting life won't topple. **ISAIAH 28:16 (MSG)**

²⁰I will never forget this awful time,
as I grieve over my loss.

²¹Yet I still dare to hope
when I remember this:

²²The faithful love of the LORD never ends!
His mercies never cease.

²³Great is His faithfulness;
His mercies begin afresh each morning.

²⁴I say to myself, "The LORD is my inheritance;
therefore, I will hope in Him!"

²⁵The LORD is good to those who depend on Him,
to those who search for Him.

²⁶So it is good to wait quietly
for salvation from the LORD. **LAMENTATIONS 3:20-26 (NLT)**

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon Me, for the Lord has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent Me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed. ²He has sent Me to tell those who mourn that the time of the Lord's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies. ³To all who mourn in Israel, He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the Lord has planted for His own glory. **ISAIAH 61:1-3 (NLT)**

2. REFLECT

What stands out to you in each of these passages?

What is being given to God?

What is God giving in return?

What are some things that you'd like to exchange with Jesus and receive from Him?