

## **Where Is God When You Need Him?**

### **Series: Getting to Know God**

March 21, 2010

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Psalm 139:7-10 (NLT) I can never escape from your spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the place of the dead, you are there. If I ride the wings of morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.

God never has to go anywhere, because he's already everywhere.

Jeremiah 23:23-24 (TEV) "I am a God who is everywhere and not in one place... Do you not know that I am everywhere in heaven and on earth?"

God's omnipresence means: God is everywhere.

Acts 17:28 (NLT) For in him we live and move and exist.

FACT: God is always with me. I just need to recognize it.

#### **HOW GOD'S PRESENCE BENEFITS MY LIFE:**

1. When I am lonely, God is my companion.

Psalm 25:16 (TEV) Turn to me, Lord, and be merciful to me, because I am lonely...

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Psalm 16:11 (TEV) ...your presence fills me with joy...

**BENEFIT: WHEN I'M LONELY, GOD'S PRESENCE CHEERS ME UP.**

2. When I am worried, God is my confidence.

Isaiah 43:2 (LB) When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up...

Psalm 16:8-9 (TEV) I am always aware of the Lord's presence; he is near, and nothing can shake me. And so I am thankful and glad, and I feel completely secure...

BENEFIT: WHEN I'M WORRIED, GOD'S PRESENCE CALMS ME DOWN.

Philippians 4:13 (NLT) For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need.

3. When I am tempted, God is my counselor.

I Corinthians 10:13 (NIV) No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear... he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

God is with me when I'm being tempted.

BENEFIT: WHEN I'M TEMPTED, GOD'S PRESENCE HELPS ME OUT.

4. When I am discouraged, God is my comforter.

Psalms 34:18 (TEV) The Lord is near to those who are discouraged; he saves those who have lost all hope.

John 14:16 (KJV) "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever..."

Psalms 116:8-11 (TEV) The Lord... stopped my tears and kept me from defeat. And so I walk in the presence of the Lord... I kept on believing, even when I said, "I am completely crushed," even when I was afraid and said, "No one can be trusted."

BENEFIT: WHEN I'M DISCOURAGED, GOD'S PRESENCE SEES ME THROUGH.

THREE SECRETS TO PRACTICING GOD'S PRESENCE:

1. Invite Jesus into your life.

Ephesians 3:12 (NLT) Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come fearlessly into God's presence, assured of his glad welcome.

2. Talk to God about everything.

I Thessalonians 5:17 (NLT) Keep on praying.

3. Develop the habit of praise.

Psalm 100:4 (NLT) Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name.

CONCLUSION:

To those who are tired, discouraged, frustrated, fearful, worried—God wants to say to you: I am with you!

We invite you to look over the verses in your sermon notes this week and ask and answer the following three questions (you are encouraged to get a notebook to record your thoughts):

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean?
3. What does the verse mean to me personally?