

WHEN GOD ISN'T THERE

July 15, 2018 - Psalm 139:7-12

What do we mean by “God’s presence”?

- Some say “God _____ up” – does He come and go?
- At times we do _____ God’s presence more.
- Are there times when God seems _____?
Key: our **awareness** of God’s presence can change
- Omnipresence = God is present _____ at once.

Unpacking our text

- Where can I _____ from Your presence?
*Why would anyone want to get away from God?
- Answer: There is _____ we can get away from God.
- Can we hide in the farthest _____? NO!
- Can we hide in the depths OR far side of the _____? NO!
- What about hiding in total _____? NO!

Personalizing omnipresence: Our Creator is present everywhere, but He has _____ His presence to those who trust Him!

Jesus promised to His followers: “I am with you _____, to the very end of the age.” - Matthew 28:20

When God Isn’t There – when we don’t FEEL His presence

- “God is often absent in the way we most *desire*, but present in the way we most _____.” - David Bowden
- He is present in _____ the world. –Col.1:15-17
- Jesus was present as the _____ Word and now His Spirit empowers us and reveals the written Word.
- We have all known God’s _____ presence in quiet moments, in fellowship, and in a worship service.
- Yet we long to see Jesus _____ – just like the disciples!

So, WHY is God absent? (can’t see Him, hear Him or touch Him)

1. To create a _____ for Him in our hearts. (Ps. 34:10)
2. To give us an _____ for His return. (Heb.9:28)
3. To remind us there is a _____ about our God, and we have many questions to be answered. (I John 3:2)
4. Paul wanted to “_____ and to be with Christ”.
– Phil.1:23

Bottom line: What will it be like to be in HIS PRESENCE forever?

You and I can only _____!
Psalm 16:11