



10 January 2025

Where are you, God?

When was the last time you asked, “Where are You, God?” Perhaps you are asking that today.

Sometimes the question comes on a rather normal, humdrum day. God seems distant, far away. At other times its when pressures, tragedies, unfairness are raging. We may cry out to God as king David did,

“My God, I cry out by day, but You do not answer; and by night, but I have no rest” (Psalm 22:2).

Where are You, God?



Let's begin briefly exploring that by laying down some truth.

First, God does not take vacations, nor does He ever forget us. He repeatedly tells and shows us in Scripture that He is near, not far away.

We read in Psalm 119, “You are near, LORD.”

He is always near, as we read in Deuteronomy chapter 31, “He will not desert you or abandon you” (8).

Second, God is near to those who are His, those who He has called to Himself, who have accepted His call and Jesus Christ as their Savior—to each and every believer, to you and me.

Third, growing and mature believers can go through times when it seems God is far away, is nowhere to be found. Think of king David again.

Going back to Psalm 22 we see his complaint, his call to God.

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest” (1-2).

Then we see His confident song of praise in Psalm 139.

“Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,' even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you" (7-12).

He discovered, he experienced that God never was far away, but always near.

You see, when God seems to be far away from us, it is we who have moved, not God. We read in James chapter 4, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you" (8). It is as we are close to God that we will sense, know His presence.

We distance ourselves from God when we close our eyes to His truth, His promises, blessings, His directions and, yes, to sin in our lives.

We distance ourselves from God when we are focused on and striving after the things of earth rather than the things of heaven.

We distance ourselves from God when we don't spend quality time with Him and in His word.

We distance ourselves from God when we focus on our circumstances rather than God's call, His faithfulness to us and our faithfulness to Him.

So, draw near to God and you can share the experience of the writer of Psalm 73, "the nearness of God is good for me" (28).

Pastor Lyle