

Psalms 139:7 (NLT) "Where can I go from Your spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I go up to heaven, You're there. If I make my bed in the depths, You are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn and if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me and will hold me fast."

Jeremiah 23:23-24 (NLT) "Am I a God who is only close at hand?" says the LORD. "I am also far away at the same time. Can anyone hide from me in a secret place? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?"

Acts 17:28 (NASB) "For in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'"

Colossians 1:15-17 (NASB) "And He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created,... all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."

**First: When I'm lonely, God is my COMPANION.**

Psalms 25:16 (NLT) "Turn to me and have mercy, for I am alone and in deep distress."

Hebrews 13:5b-6 (NASB) "He Himself has said, 'I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,' so that we confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?'"

**Second: When I'm worried, God is my CONFIDENCE.**

Isaiah 43:2 (NLT) "When you go through deep waters, 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; the flames will not consume you."

Psalms 16:8-9 (NLT) "I know the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice. My body rests in safety."

Psalms 23:4 (NLT) "Even though I walk through the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me."

**Third: When I'm tempted, God is my COUNSELOR.**

1 Corinthians 10:13 (HCSB) "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to humanity. God is faithful and He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation He will also provide a way of escape, so that you are able to bear it."

**1st: It says temptations are common.**

**2nd: It says that God is faithful.**

**3rd: God provides you a way to escape.**

**Fourth: When I'm discouraged, God is my COMFORTER.**

Psalms 34:18 (NASB) "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all."



Where is God when you need Him?

Psalm 116:8-11 (NLT) "The Lord stopped my tears and kept me from defeat. So I walk in the presence of the Lord. I kept on believing, even when I said, 'I'm completely crushed' and even

### Four Secrets to Practicing the Presence of God:

#### 1. **INVITE** Jesus into your life.

Ephesians 3:11-12 (NASB) "This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him."

Ephesians 3:16-17a (NASB) "that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith."

#### 2. Be **QUIET**.

Psalms 46:10 (NIV) "Be still and know that I am God."

James 4:8 (NLT) "Draw near to God and He'll draw near to you."

#### 3. **TALK** to God about everything.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NIV) "Pray without ceasing."

#### 4. Develop the habit of **PRAISE**.

Psalm 100:4 (NIV) "Enter his gates with thanksgiving, enter His courts with praise."

#### **Application:**

Do you draw comfort from the continual presence of God in your life?

Where do you turn when your lonely?

How do you handle worry?

Where do you turn when you are tempted to sin?

Do you allow God to be your encouragement when your are discouraged with life?

What do you need to do to practice the presence of God?

- invite Jesus into your life
- be quiet before the Lord
- talk to God about everything
- learn to offer continual praise

What has God shown you this morning?

What do you need to do to adjust your life to what God has shown you?

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 23:24 "Can anyone hide from me in a secret place? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?" says the LORD.

