



LET'S GO DEEPER

THE PRESENT OF HIS PRESENCE - Sept 22 - PASTOR PETER

2 Chronicles. 7:1-3 "When Solomon finished praying, fire flashed down from heaven and burned up the burnt offerings and sacrifices, and the glorious presence of the Lord filled the Temple. The priests could not enter the Temple of the Lord because the glorious presence of the Lord filled it. When all the people of Israel saw the fire coming down and the glorious presence of the Lord filling the Temple, they fell face down on the ground and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying, 'He is good! His faithful love endures forever!'"

1. Awareness

Right now, we're more aware of what's going on in this world than at any other point in history. And it feels like the constant drum beat is doom and gloom because bad news sells.

But there is something else we can be aware of that will lift our spirits, it will bring joy to our lives, it will download hope into our hearts and it will bring peace to our minds.

And that something else is the presence of God.

Psalm 139:7 "I can never escape from Your Spirit! I can never get away from Your presence!"

There's nowhere that I can go that God is not. God's universal presence is everywhere.

Matt. 18:20 "For wherever two or three come together in honour of My name, I am right there with them!"

Right now, He is here with us. We don't make God present.

While we ask God to show us His presence every time we're together we also need to ask God to help us empty our hearts and our minds of the clutter and the distractions so that we can become more aware of His presence that's already here.

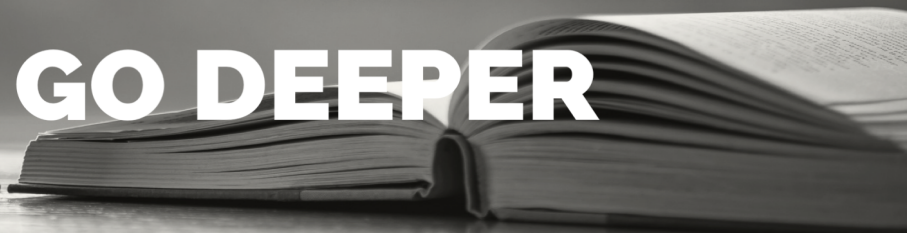
2 Cor. 10:5 "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

QUESTIONS:

1. How can we be more aware of God's presence in our lives?

2. How does day to day distractions affect our awareness of God?

3. What type of thoughts or actions in your day to day distracts you from God's presence?



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1 Corinthians 3:16 “Don’t you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?”

God’s presence isn’t locked into a building, God’s presence is in His people.

2. Connection

And then we have the connection to His presence. God doesn’t want any of us to live our Christian lives below the level of connection that He wants to have with us.

God Touches Our Motivations

Both the easiest and the hardest things we do are changed when we do them for God’s glory. I can’t always control what happens to me, but I can control my attitude.

Colossians 1:17 “He existed before anything else, and He holds all creation together.

That includes our lives.
Thinking about God changes my attitude.

Philippians 4:8 “Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.”

1 Corinthians 10:31 “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

Because when we do ‘whatever’ to the glory of God, we’re intentionally engaging Him and that connects us to His presence.
God Touches the Small Things

And we look for God’s touch in the small things.

Mark 6:41 “Then Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, gazed into heaven, and gave thanks to God.

He’s not trying to give us a pattern of saying grace before we eat, even though that’s a good thing. He’s giving us a pattern of thanking God for even small things.

James 1:17 “Every gift God freely gives us is good and perfect, streaming down from the Father of lights, who shines from the

QUESTIONS:

1. How does our attitude in life change our perspective of who God is?

2. What do you think 1 Corinthians 10:31 mean?

3. Do you thank God for every small thing? Why is this important?
