



“Why We Need the Presence of God in our Life”

Pastor Paul Taylor/December 6, 2009

ESV Translation

We **NEED** Emmanuel-God with us. *We need the tangible presence of God to meet with us.*

Three dimensions of God’s presence:

1. **God’s is omni-present;** He is present everywhere at all times.
 - *2 Chronicles 2:6* “But who is able to build him a house, since heaven, even highest heaven, cannot contain him? Who am I to build a house for him, except as a place to make offerings before him.”
2. **God’s indwelling presence.** God lives in us through the presence of the Holy Spirit.
 - *1 Cor. 3:16*, “Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?”
3. **The manifest presence of God.** Where we become aware that His presence is manifesting itself here and now! The biggest difference is that we are in *GOD’S PRESENCE*-He is not simply in ours.
 - *Genesis 28:16*, Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it."
 - *Acts 9:3-4*, “Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.⁴ And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" *Jesus, now in heaven, reveals himself and his will for Paul’s life.*
 - *Acts 3:16*, “We believe in the one named Jesus. Through his power alone this man, whom you know, was healed, as all of you saw.”

Child-like faith is a door to God revealing himself to us.

- *Luke 10:21-25*, “In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.”

Is there anything we can do to increase God’s presence in our lives?

- **Salvation:** The Blood of Christ gives us access to God's presence. *Ephesians 2:13-14*, “remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.¹³ *But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.”
- **Make God the love of your life:** All we really want and need for life is found in God the Father, and Jesus Christ His Son. *Matthew 6:33*, “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” *Deuteronomy 4:29*, “But from there you will seek the LORD your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.”
- **Trust:** Trust is not the absence of fear, it is trusting God in spite of the fear. *Psalms 91: 1-2*, “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. ²I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”
- **Humility & repentance:** *Is. 57:15*, “For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a *contrite and lowly spirit*, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.”
- **Authentic praise and thanksgiving brings us in His presence:** *Psalms 89:15-17*, “Blessed are the people who know how to praise you. *They walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.* ¹⁶They find joy in your name all day long. They are joyful in your righteousness ¹⁷because you are the glory of their strength.” (God’s Word Translation) Without genuine praise-the place is empty. *There is nothing for God to inhabit. Not perfect praise-rather its humble and honest worship where you mean what you are saying and feeling.*

Four good reasons why we NEED the presence of God in our lives:

- 1. We understand our suffering & injustice from God's perspective.** In God's presence we find understanding for what doesn't make sense. *Psalm 73:16-19*, "But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, ¹⁷until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end. ¹⁸Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin. ¹⁹How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors!"
- 2. Praise for God is our spiritual flashlight for life.** *Psalm 89:15-17*, "Blessed are the people who know how to praise you. They walk in the light of your presence, O LORD."
- 3. We find safety in God's presence.** *Psalm 27:5*, "For he will *hide me in his shelter* in the day of trouble; *he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.*" It's a place of physical and emotional safety.
- 4. God's presence is empowering. It gives us the ability** to live above our natural abilities without leaving us exhausted. *Philippians 4:13*, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Summary: We need God's presence in our lives to accomplish God's purposes.

Questions:

Is there anything in your life that needs to change in order for you to experience more of the presence of God?

Do you need the presence of God to meet you today? What for? Would you be willing to pray with someone about that need?