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**GOD'S PRESENCE**

So one day this old country preacher was sitting in his little church reading the Bible when a young man about 20 years old came in the door. He said, "Sir, I was raised in the church but it was never real to me. I've been living a bad life, and I realize that I need God. But I can't find God. Can you help me?"

The old preacher thought for a minute and said, "Come with me" He led him back of the church to a pond. The preacher had him lay his shoes and wrist watch and wallet on the ground and led him out into the pond. Of course, the young man thought he was going to be baptized.

The preacher pushed him down under the water, but he just held him there. In a little while the young man pushed the old man's hands away and came up out of the water sputtering. "What are you trying to do, drown me?"

The old preacher said, "When you want God as much as you wanted air, you will find Him."

Does God want us to find him? Does he want us to come into his presence? Yes, yes. Do you know that verse in Jeremiah 29:13? "And you will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart." This is a promise from God. Anyone who really seeks him - not half-heartedly but with all their heart - will find him.

Remember that veil in the Temple that separated people from God was torn when Jesus died on the cross. Remember that story? God is available, He wants us to come to know him, to love him.

And God's presence changes things!  
His presence changes the atmosphere.

His presence changes our attitude; it brings hope and healing.

People drive for hundreds of miles to attend Bill Johnson's church in Redding, California. Why? God's presence is there. Remember the Airport Vineyard in Toronto? People even flew in from Europe to attend the services. When the church doors opened at 6 PM, hundreds of people were waiting to rush in and fill the seats. Why? God's presence was there, his glory, his healing power.

God loves for people to seek his presence,. But we can't be half-hearted and luke warm.

David, in the Bible, was a man after God's own heart. Why? He hungered for the presence of God. He was an amazing young man.

David learned some secrets about God that he shared in the Bible. Psalm 19:1 reads: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament (the starry sky) shows his handiwork."

David looked up into the night sky and saw thousands of stars. He didn't know it, but we know there are billions of galaxies, and each galaxy has a billion stars. Do you know how God did that? He said "Let there be stars in the heavens," and ....POOF! THERE THEY WERE! Whoa! What a God. Don't you want to know that majestic being? Don't you want to know him? You can know him.

Just a couple of months ago I got up one morning and there was fresh snow on the Grand Mesa and the sun was coming up and it was shining like a jewel. It was breath-taking. God did that!

Then at Psalm 19:7, David starts talking about the law of the Lord, the testimonies, the statutes. He's talking about the Word of God and how we can find God in this amazing book. Isn't the Bible amazing, these "great and precious promises" that reveal God to us? And David didn't even have the New Testament. All he had was the Torah, Genesis through

Deuteronomy. You and I have the book of John, and Romans and Ephesians and Colossians and Philipians and 1 and 2 Peter.

What did David tell us in his writings? In Psalm 22:3, he writes: "God dwells (or sits enthroned) on the praises of his people." He says if you want to experience the presence of God, just start praising and thanking him. That's what we do when we sing hymns to start the service. We are the choir, and God is the audience. We don't sing praises as a warm up for the message, which is what I used to think, we sing praises to honor God and to come into his presence.

Did you know these Psalms were the hymn book for the people of Israel? Look what it says at the top of Psalm 19: "To the chief musician."

I suggest you sing that first verse to God: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork." Let the Holy Spirit give you the tune, lift your hands up to God and sing these words to him. (I can't sing a lick, and even I got a kind of tune and sang it to God. I was sitting out on the patio and noticed that all the sparrows got real quiet and dizzy, but I think that God appreciated it.)

Then in Psalm 19:12, David changes gears. He looks at himself, a deep, honest look, and perceives all the deep issues in his heart. He thinks, "What's wrong with me? Why can't I be faithful and consistent in my walk with God? Why do all these secrets keep tormenting me?" He cries out in Vs. 12: "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults."

Everyone has secrets. We have secrets from others, even from our spouse. We may have secrets that we have never confessed to God, as if he doesn't know. And I've learned that many people have secrets hidden even from their own consciousness. When bad things happen to a child or young person, it is common that she will repress that terrible experience, push it down out of their memory. But it is hidden there and can cause problems all through life unless it is brought to the surface so that Jesus can heal it.

In another Psalm, Psalm 139:12, David writes, "Search me, O God, and know my

heart; try me and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me..."

David says he doesn't know his own heart, nor do we. We don't remember some of the evil things that happened to us when we were very young; we don't understand how some evil things came into us when we were vulnerable; even how some evil spirits came into us generationally.

David has been on the mountain top considering the majesty of creation and the majesty of the word of God, but now he looks at his own heart and realizes there is spiritual work he must do.

Philippians 2:12 says, "Work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for God is at work in you, giving you the desire and the power to do his will." We are born again as spiritual babies, and babies have to grow up.

A wedding is a beautiful experience, but marriage involves a lot of hard work and tears and dying to self. Right? Especially when babies come along. Oh, boy!

Okay, let's do some spiritual work:

How did your father treat you: Did he love you? How did he treat your mother? Was he angry? Moody? Cold and silent? Was he an alcoholic and sometimes violent? Did he curse you or put you down with hurtful words? Did he have other women? Did he abandon your family? When you think about your father, does it make you sad? Angry? Upset?

God wants to heal your heart. Say, "Lord, I choose today to forgive my father. I forgive him for.....(Let the Holy Spirit bring to your mind the things you need to forgive.)

Lord, I repent for judging my father. I repent if I ever cursed him in my thoughts. I choose to honor him (or if he is dead, I choose to honor his memory). Jesus, come and heal my heart and my memories.

How about your mother? Did she love your sister or brother but she didn't love you? Was she a drug addict or an alcoholic? Maybe she had physical or mental problems and wasn't able to take care of you. Maybe she or your

father died. It certainly wasn't their fault, but it felt like abandonment....and you were angry at God. Say, Lord, I forgive my mother for .....(Let the Lord bring things to your memory.) And Lord, I repent for blaming you and being angry with you. I don't understand why things happen, but you are a good God, you love me and have been there for me. Forgive me, Lord. Lord, come and heal our hearts of deep wounds, of secret things, hurtful things.

Do you need to forgive an ex-spouse? Did he curse you, beat you, hurt your children, cheat on you? I've heard some awful stories. Forgiveness is absolutely necessary if you want to be a whole, healthy Christian. Say, Lord, help me to forgive as you have forgiven me.

Is there someone else you need to forgive? Just take your time and ask the Lord to show you what is in your heart. Forgive, and then let him do his quiet work of healing your heart. He loves you and wants to bless you.

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## **A FATHER'S BLESSING**

I'm old enough to be your father or grandfather, and then some. Will you allow me to act as your surrogate father and say some things to you that maybe your dad never said to you, things that he should have said to you?

"My daughter, you are beautiful, and I love you and am so sorry for the things I said and the things I did that hurt you. I'm so very sorry, and I'm proud of the person you have become.

My son, I am proud of you. You have had so many things to overcome, and you are a fighter, and I'm so proud of what you have become. You have been seeking the Lord, and he has been helping you again and again.

I want to bless you, my dear daughter or son. Put your hand on your heart.

I give to you a father's blessing. I bless your health. I bless your family and your finances. God loves you and he blesses you

spiritually and mentally and physically. He has good plans for you, plans for a good future and a great hope. Just sit quietly and receive your earthly father's blessing and your heavenly father's blessing.

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## **42 VIDEOS**

If you would like to watch any of my healing videos, 42 of them, about 20 minutes each, just click on the following: [Video Index](#)

### **Subjects:**

How we get our identity; Overcoming addictions; My personal story of God's rescue; Overcoming addictions; Word curses; Overcoming anger; Establishing boundaries; Overcoming self hatred and self condemnation; Mistakes vs. sins; Ungodly soul ties; Witchcraft; The wounds of trauma; Generational curses ; Danger of the occult; Demonization; Can a Christian be demonized? Get rid of the garbage.

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God bless,

Glenn

PS - **Get rid of the garbage!** That's another way of saying: "Work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for God is at work in you, giving you the desire and the power to do his will."

[Glenn Brown at Rising Fire Chinch](#)