The Awareness of God’s Presence


**SUMMARY**

God is always with us, but this doesn’t mean we can always perceive Him.

There may be times when we feel really close to Him, yet on other occasions, He might seem distant and uninvolved in our lives. However, if we’re believers, we can be certain that He is our constant companion whether we’re aware of Him or not. This is a fact we can count on, and one which will empower and transform our lives.

**SERMON POINTS**

Throughout all the difficulties David experienced in life, he clung to one truth.

He penned in Psalm 23:4, “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me.” We too have this same promise to stand upon—God is with us.

An awareness of God’s presence is vital to whatever He wants to do in our lives.

Throughout the Scriptures, we see the powerful influence His nearness had on the lives of those who trusted Him.

- Enoch walked so closely with the Lord that He took him to heaven (Gen. 5:24).
- God gave Noah instructions for building the ark and protected him through the flood (Gen. 6:13).
- Abraham left his country and family, depending upon the Lord to show him where to go (Gen. 12:1).
- When Moses was called to confront Pharaoh and free the Israelites, God promised to go with him (Ex. 3:12).

- After Moses died and Joshua became Israel’s new leader, the Lord said He’d be with him just as He’d been with Moses (Josh. 1:5).
- Gideon was able to defeat Midian because God fought for him (Judg. 6:16).
- David trusted the Lord to deliver Goliath into his hands (1 Sam. 17:46).
- After commissioning His followers to take the gospel to the entire world, Christ promised to be with them to the end of the age (Matt. 28:19-20).
- Jesus did not leave His followers as orphans but sent the Holy Spirit to indwell them (John 14:18).
- The apostle Paul was able to endure hardship and finish well because he depended on Christ as he “fought the good fight” and “finished the course” (2 Tim. 4:7).

The Lord still works powerfully in us today through His indwelling Spirit. One of Jesus’ most amazing statements is in John 14:12, “He who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.” Christ’s ministry was limited to the small geographic area of Israel, but His disciples accomplished “greater works” by spreading the gospel throughout the Roman Empire, and today it reaches even farther through radio, television, and other media. We have no idea what the Spirit of God within us can do if we surrender everything to Him and live with a constant recognition of His powerful presence.

**What is the evidence of an awareness of God’s presence in our lives?**

- **He’s continually in our thoughts, both conscious and unconscious.** As we go about our daily responsibilities, we have a subconscious awareness that the Lord is always with us.
We persistently seek His guidance. When our minds are set on the Lord, we want His direction for our choices in every area of life.

We view the Lord as our constant companion. No matter what we go through—even the loss of a loved one—we know we’re not alone.

Being aware of God helps us see everything in the light of His presence. This gives us a sense of safety because He keeps us through trials, reminds us of the dangers of sin, and provides for all our needs.

We experience Christ’s peace in the midst of storms. Knowing that nothing in this world is more powerful or knowledgeable than almighty God gives amazing peace and confidence in the midst of difficulties and suffering.

His presence creates a hunger within us for the Word of God. Reading the Scriptures is like listening to the Lord speak directly to us. When we begin each morning in His Word, we are reminded all day long of His instructions and His constant care.

Living with an awareness of the Lord brings joy to our hearts. Knowing that our omnipotent God is constantly with us puts troubling circumstances in their proper place—under His authority—and gives us the unexplainable joy of His companionship.

We are more conscious of the good things God sends us. Instead of giving others credit or attributing luck as the source of our blessings, we’ll realize that every perfect gift comes from the Father above (James 1:17).

The Lord’s presence causes us to continually live in dependence upon Him. Our first reaction to trouble is to call upon Him for help and protection.

Prayer is a priority in our lives. We don’t just come to the Lord with our problems and requests but carry on a conversation with Him all day long, either verbally or in our thoughts.

When everything looks bleak, we continue to have hope. Our confidence is in God, not in good circumstances. He is our helper and sustainer.

Every decision is sifted through God’s will. In each choice, our first thought is to do what the Lord desires.

We consider needs in the light of His presence. Since He is our provider and knows exactly what we need, we have no cause for worry. We simply ask the Lord for help and trust Him to provide.

Our worship is authentic and rewarding. Church isn’t just a religious routine but a chance to gather with believers and enter into God’s presence with adoration.

An obedient lifestyle is the result of living in tune with the Lord. The more aware we are of Jesus in our lives, the less we tolerate sin because we know it doesn’t fit us anymore.

We have a strong, intimate relationship with Christ. As we live with the mindset that He is always with us, our love for Him and sensitivity to Him increase.

RESPONSE

Think about times when you’ve felt close to the Lord. What caused you to feel that way? Now consider a time when He seemed distant. What prompted this emotion?

Being aware of God’s presence begins with a mindset on Him. How often during the day do your thoughts drift to the Lord? What steps can you take to increase your conscious awareness of Him?

God’s presence is transforming. As you read through all the benefits associated with living with an awareness of Him, which ones are evident in your life? Would you be willing to ask the Lord to work in you to produce those you lack?