



From cover to cover, God's desire is to be with us. He is closer than we think. Read Acts 10:11,12,16, 2 Kings 6:15b-16, 2 Kings 6:17. The barrier between God and us is neither space nor time, neither the here nor the now. God is in the here and the now. The barrier is dimensional. To step into His immediate presence is to step through a dimension veil. He is here with us. Do you ever struggle with the idea that God is fully present but in a dimension we cannot see with our human perspective? In what ways has it changed the way you do your life knowing that God is fully present in your every moment?

Read 139:7-10. God promises us His presence wherever we are. Sometimes though, we don't always feel His presence. But God's presence is not based on our feelings but instead on His integrity. When you are struggling to feel God's presence, how do you usher yourself into the presence of God?

Being aware of God's closeness helps us in so many ways. It helps us to 1) exercise courage, 2) resist temptation, 3) endure trials, 4) make disciples, 5) experience joy, 6) combat loneliness, 7) reduce fear, 8) experience peace, 9) face death. Share your experiences of times where God's presence has helped you.

On Sunday, Gerry talked about 3 ways we respond to God's closeness. Firstly, we are to *live with increased awareness of God*. Read Acts 17:27b-28a. God's presence infuses all tasks with meaning. What areas of your life could you invite a greater manifestation of God's presence?



The 2nd way we respond to God's closeness is to *pray with increased confidence in God*. God's closeness changes how we pray. Read Philippians 4:5b-6. On a scale of 1-10, how would you describe the health of your prayer life? What changes would you make to *pray with increased confidence in God*?

The last way we respond to God's closeness is to *worship with increased gratitude to God*. Would you worship differently if you could see Jesus in the room?