



PRAYING THE PSALMS – PSALM 139 (VS. 7-9)
THERE'S NO ESCAPING GOD
Women's Discipleship Group
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Series #4 Lesson #4

Scripture Focus: *Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 7-9*

Key Word: Presence (Hebrew – Paneh) Face - or the very appearance of you.

Opening Statement:

From verse 7-9, the psalmist speaks of the human effort to escape God. He uses terms like: go, flee, ascend, descend, fly and swim to describe the lengths that people will go to escape the presence of God's Spirit. Very often we encounter people that appear to be far from the Lord in their lifestyle – but they may be closer than we think. Believe me when I say, no matter what our spiritual position or condition, we can never escape the presence of the Lord – for God is omnipresent. By omnipresent, I mean that God is everywhere. In the crackhouse, jailhouse, clubhouse and church house. In any of these places we have but to call on His name and He will reveal Himself.

The difference between people that desires to be close to God and people who is far from God is that God reveals Himself to the one who seeks His presence, but hides from the ones who reject Him. But never mistake the hidden presence of God with God not being there at all.

The question remains: Why would anyone want to escape the presence of God? Especially when the Word makes the following promises:

1. In your presence is fullness of joy. (Psalm 16:11a)
2. At your right hand are pleasures forevermore (Psalm 16:11b).
3. My enemies shall fall and perish at Your presence (Psalm 9:3).

I can think of 4 possible reasons that might a person would try to escape from God:

1. To pursue an ungodly lifestyle.
2. To run from God's plan and purpose.
3. To run from God's correction.
4. To run from a church or person who has wounded them, yet claims to represent God.

You can spend the rest of your life running from the Lord, but like a hamster on a treadmill you will only be running away from God's peace, joy and sense of fulfillment.

The Bible says, *be still and know that I am God.*

OBSERVATIONS:

1. Search the scriptures and determine if God can find us in hell.

2. Find a scripture that you would give assurance to someone who thinks they are beyond God's reach and beyond His help.

INTERPRETATION:

Look at the life of David in 1 & 2 Samuel. What event(s) happened in David's life that confirmed God's omnipresence?

PERSONALIZATION:

Write about an event in your life that confirmed God's omnipresence.

APPLICATION:

Find a scripture that speaks of the Lord continuous presence and post it in plain sight. When you are under attack by the enemy use this posted scripture to remind yourself of God's presence.