

Anytime and Everywhere

Rachael Martin 10,16,2015

Psalm 69:5 – O God, You know my foolishness; And my sins are not hidden from You.

In moving our family from one state to another, the thought occurred to me (more than I care to admit) that we would deal with a season of isolation. Even though there are a couple of good friends we know and one distant family member about an hour from us, that was it. Certainly my children and husband are feeling this too if I am. In some ways, I was excited because I was no longer going to need to be in the frontlines. I could sit in the WAY BACK or not even go to a church service – whatever we wanted to do! I thought to myself and probably said out loud a few times – I can have some alone time with the Lord!

Friends, don't kid yourself – by taking the fellowship of the saints out of your life, you are “walking on thin” ice so to speak – because you can easily fall into a pattern of complacency, laziness, idleness, and possibly find yourself further from the Lord than what you intended if you aren't careful to practice His presence.

Technology has come a long way in helping us to keep in touch with friends and family, but before the latest and greatest technology that we have today, God Almighty was still here waiting for us to reach out to Him. The one thing that technology hasn't done is provided an app that shows our “God-meter” and how close or far we are from the Lord. Embracing His presence should be a desire, a hunger, a first fruit but unfortunately, what is most likely is we dive into the latest gadget out there and learn it's bells and whistles and it captures our attention and focus for FAR too long.

There was a part of me that said – “Yes!! I can finally have some down time!” I'm not gonna lie, there was a part of me that wanted to shut everything and everyone out for a while and in trying to do so, I quickly realized that I was starting to have an “it's all about me” focus. Forgetting to take into account that my husband may need to get some fellowship or hear a tangible message or that my children needed to feel a part of something and socialize.

In realizing that I was now more dependent on technology to keep in touch with people, the other day I heard Holy Spirit pull on my heart strings and say “I never went anywhere, I’m still as close as before.” Make no mistake loved one, God knows your heart better than you do!

**Psalm 139:7-10 – Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?
8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.**

Have you found yourself in the same place, turning in circles? Do you feel like you have allowed yourself to be further from the Lord than you like? Are you struggling to keep the place you had yesterday with God today? Are you wallowing in self-pity and regret? Do you find yourself saying, it’s only one sin, it’s only one lie. Do you keep saying “Tomorrow I’ll do better!”?

God knows everything about you. God was there each time you wrestled with a thought. He was there everytime you decided to lie or sin or cheat. He knew your heart and the decisions you were leaning on before you made them and He’s here with you now.

God wants you now! He wanted you yesterday and He will want you tomorrow. He knew your heart and thoughts yesterday and knows every direction and outcome that can come tomorrow. It is His heart that you don’t perish where you are but that you bloom where you are planted right now! He is everywhere, all the time!! He can help to cultivate the ground around you and bring people in and out of your life that will help you grow. Can I challenge you (and me!)?

For the next 7 days until October 22nd, when I first wake up, instead of reaching for my phone for the scripture of the day, I’m going to sit there or kneel there and say:

Lord, I'm here today and I'd like to hear from You. I'd like to know Your heart for me. I'd like to hear Your voice and seek Your face for what You would have for me and what You would have me to do today. I want to be faithful with what You have given me and I want to give You the first parts of me. I choose to walk with You today – anytime You want to use me and everywhere You choose to use me, I am Yours. I wait for You Lord – Holy Spirit take over.

Then, just wait and listen. It may take a day or two, but remain faithful, would you? Write down what you hear or share with us what you've experienced. Call a friend and encourage someone today. God bless you!! He is for you, anytime and everywhere!

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