

THEME: Pursuing God in 2009
Monthly Series: Pursuing God's Pathway
Today's Title: In Pursuit of the Presence of God
Ps. 16.11, Gen. 3.8

February 1, 2009

*You will show me the path that leads to life;
your presence fills me with joy
and brings me pleasure forever. TEV*

If God's presence contains complete joy and eternal pleasures this is the place everyone should be longing for.

The initial sentence contains the key that is often omitted from both our thinking and our preaching. God wants to show us the path of life. So His presence is not the religious, ominous, ethereal place we often imagine. It is the path of this life; the plan, purpose and divine program for this life.

The questions we must ponder as we pursue His presence would likely be: What is the presence of God? How do we attain the presence of God? How do we maintain the presence of God?

I. What is the presence of God?

Simply put, His presence is a place where He meets with us.

- Making a place for us is His idea not ours.
- Whenever there is a change, we make it!
- His presence contains all that we need.

II. How do we attain the presence of God?

- We cannot attain His presence, His gift!
- The presence of God is the gift of salvation
- Our issue is not getting it but being aware of it!

III. Maintaining the gift of His Presence

- Know that God is always with you! [Heb 13:4-6](#)

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*5 Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," 6 so that we confidently say,
"THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID.
WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?" NASU*

- Act as if God is always with you. [Ex 19:3-6](#)

When you feel you've failed you will move away from God thinking that He is moving away from you.

4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. 5 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; 6 and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' NASU

III. Maintaining the gift of His Presence (continued)

- Seek after Him as if He is there!

[Deut 4:29](#)

[29 "But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul." NASU](#)

He wants to be “discovered” by you!

[2 Chron 15:2-3](#)

[And if you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. NASU](#)