

## EXPERIENCE

“Pastor, I feel a distance between me and God, and this is stopping me experiencing His presence. What have I done wrong?” First, you must understand that there is never any separation between you and God - even though it may feel like it at times. The Bible makes this truth very clear, the Lord said, **“I will never leave you or abandon you”** (Hebrews 13:5). Jesus promised, **“I am with you always”** (Matthew 28:20). Therefore, we can experience God’s presence anytime and anywhere. Hebrews 4:16 says, **“Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”** Whenever we need help, we can boldly come into God’s presence to receive mercy and find grace. There is only one condition attached to this incredible experience, and that is, we must enter through the shed blood of Jesus.

God made a way for us to come into the Holy of Holies through Jesus Christ. This means that we no longer need to be separated from God. We can enjoy His presence and experience His great love anytime. But do we? Do we sense a close fellowship with God? Do we experience His great love? If you don’t, please understand that nothing has changed in God’s eyes. He still sees you through blood-tinted glasses, and you are the apple of His eye. In fact, you mean so much to God that He cannot take His eye off you! Why? Because Christ’s death (the shed blood of Jesus) has satisfied every demand of God – you are the “redeemed.” As you accept that, you remove the veil that separates you from God. There is no longer a shroud, and as a result, you can experience His presence more and more. Yes, you can find grace and receive mercy, and have victory after victory, every time you boldly approach the throne of grace.

Notice that whenever we approach God we must do it with confidence (boldly). This highlights the need for an intimate relationship with Him. We cannot experience God’s presence in a state of negative energy or apprehension. We can only come into His presence knowing that He gladly receives us as we are. He is our heavenly Father! A father desires nothing else but to experience and share as much as he can with his children. He treasures every moment with each individual child. Likewise, God wants to experience everything with you. In John 5:19 Jesus said, **“I only do what I see My Father do.”** Every experience was shared with His Father before He implemented it! We can all do the same! Enter the throne room of grace in the confidence that you will be received with open arms, and then experience the love of the Father. God wants to share every moment of every day with you.

*“Through the clouds of midnight, this bright promise shone, I will never leave thee, never leave thee alone.”*