



## Desiring His Presence.

(June 9, 2005)

Not too long ago a reporter asked me what it was that attracted me, as a teenager, towards wanting to serve God. It did not take me very long to come up with my answer: ***“The tangible presence of the Lord!”*** Psalm 16:11 says that ***in the presence of the Lord there is fullness of joy*** -- and joy and excitement are 2 things for which every teenager is searching. Religion is sufferingly boring and is probably the biggest turnoff for the honest and fun-seeking young person today. Living by faith and in ***the presence of God, on the other hand, is exiting and exhilarating.***

Jesus knew the presence of His Father. He said, “I came out from the Father and I came into this world. Again I leave the world and go unto my Father.”

We, also, may live in the presence of our Father because we are born of God and God is now our Father. We can know Him as our heavenly Father here on earth.

If we start the day with Him, we will have fellowship with Him. When we wake up in the morning we set the tone for the day by saying: ***“Good morning, Father! Thank you for another day to live and walk in your presence!”***

Concerning any problem that confronts us during the day, we can consult the Father in our hearts all throughout the day. ***This is what He wants us to do, to include Him in every decision and in every detail of our lives.***

If it is wisdom we need, we can thank him for it because he promised to give it to us if we ask Him. ***“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God...”*** (James 1:5-6 )

If it is love to meet a disagreeable situation, we know that His love has been shed abroad in our hearts by His Holy Spirit who is given unto us. (Romans 5:5) ***He can make our words emulate Jesus’ words--full of love, sympathy, and courage.***

The Word of God states it so wonderfully in Exodus 33:14, ***“My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.”***

It is good for us from time to time to stop what we are doing and speak to the Father, ***“Thank you for your ability and wisdom to meet this problem.”***

In the morning we analyze our situation and we say, ***“Father what do you want me to do for you today? Thank you Father for giving me access to your wisdom, your ability, your love, and your grace to meet every issue that confronts me today. By faith in your Word and in your Grace, I have physical strength for every need today. I have wisdom to meet every challenge. I have love no matter what provokes me.”***

When we walk and talk like this, our life with God in His presence becomes a practical thing. ***People around us will then be attracted to this wonderful tangible presence of God our Father.***

***All to the glory of God our Father!***

*Words to study: Psalms 16:11, James 1:5-6, Romans 5:5, Exodus 33:14*

-Roger Wågsjö