

When God Feels Far Away

Faith When Heaven Seems Silent

Key Scripture - Psalm 22:1 (KJV)

"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?"

A Thought for the Day

There are moments in the life of faith when God feels very close. Prayer seems natural, Scripture speaks clearly, and we can almost see His hand at work around us.

Then there are other seasons. We pray and hear silence. We ask for direction and still do not know which way to turn. We know what we believe, but emotionally God seems far away.

Psalm 22 begins with words that are painfully honest: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Jesus Himself spoke these words from the cross. Scripture does not hide the reality that faithful people can experience moments of deep anguish and a sense of abandonment.

Feeling Alone Is Not the Same as Being Alone

One thing I have learned is that what I feel in a moment does not always tell me the whole truth about what God is doing.

Psalm 22 begins in anguish, but it does not end there. As the psalm continues, David remembers God's faithfulness. He looks beyond what he feels in that moment and remembers who God has always been.

That is an important lesson for us. Feeling God's absence is not the same thing as God actually being absent. Faith sometimes means holding onto what we know about God when our emotions cannot yet feel it.

When Heaven Seems Silent

God's silence does not necessarily mean God's rejection. Sometimes we do not receive an immediate explanation for what we are walking through. Sometimes the answer comes later. Sometimes the circumstances do not change as quickly as we hoped.

But the cross reminds us that God can be working even in the darkest moment, when no one can yet see what He is accomplishing.

So when God feels far away, we can do what the psalmist did: speak honestly to Him. We do not have to pretend. We can tell Him about our fear, grief, confusion, and disappointment - and then remind our own hearts of the God who has been faithful before.

Carry This With You

If heaven seems quiet today, do not mistake silence for abandonment. Keep praying. Keep opening God's Word. Keep remembering what He has already carried you through. You may not understand this chapter yet, but you do not have to understand everything in order to keep

trusting the One who is with you in it.

Am I interpreting God's presence only by what I feel today?

What past evidence of God's faithfulness can I remember right now?

Can I speak honestly to God while still choosing to trust Him?

Closing Prayer

Father, there are times when You feel close and times when I struggle to sense Your presence at all. When heaven seems silent, help me remember that silence does not mean You have abandoned me. Give me courage to speak honestly to You about what hurts and faith to hold onto what I know about Your character. Remind me of the times You have been faithful before, and help me trust You in the chapter I do not yet understand. Stay near to my heart today and teach me to walk by faith even when I cannot see the answer. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Rick Hicks Ministries
Helping people grow in faith, one day at a time.