

God with Us Brings Hope

Day 2 HOPE IN GOD WITH US

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I sit on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. (Psalm 139: 7-12)

Have you ever felt like there is no way out? Have your problems seemed too big, too painful, too confusing, too far gone – to whatever? Has it seemed like God was too far away and would never come through? The people of Israel must've felt that way before Jesus' arrival on earth. For thousands of years, their ancestors had waited in hoped for the coming Messiah, whom God had promised. But for hundreds of years they had heard nothing from God through the prophets. Instead, they lived and suffered under the harsh oppression of the Romans. They longed for the Messiah they had been promised. They dreamed of the political freedom they thought He would bring. They did all they could to keep hope alive.

Maybe you can relate. We all face darkness in some form of another. But the promise of God with Us reminds us that no matter how tempting it is to despair, God will never let us go. As the psalmist reminded us, God will never abandon us, no matter where we go. We can't escape His love. We can't outrun His presence. We can't elude His care. The I Am will always be, and He will always be with us.

In what ways, no matter how small, can you see and sense God's presence at work around you? What spark of hope can you hold onto and fan into a greater flame?