

Summer of Psalms:

What to do when God seems far away

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – August 24, 2014

[Psalms 13](#)

1 How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? 2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? 3 Look on me and answer, O Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death; 4 my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall. 5 But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. 6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me.

3 things to do when God seems far away:

The 1st thing to do is...

1. **ASSUME GOD'S PRESENCE, AND DO WHAT YOU KNOW TO DO.**

[Psalms 13](#)

1 How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? 2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?

5 But I trust in (you)...

The 2nd thing to do when God seems far away is...

2. **CLING TO WHAT YOU KNOW IS TRUE.**

So, what is true about God?

- He Loves You!

[Psalms 13](#)

5 But I trust in your unfailing love;

- He has Saved You!

[Psalms 13](#)

5 ... my heart rejoices in your salvation.

- He has Blessed You!

[Psalms 13](#)

6 ... he has been good to me.

The 3rd thing to do when God seems far away is...

3. **KEEP PRAISING HIM.**

[Psalms 13](#)

1 How long...? How long...? 2 How long...? How long...?
BUT...

6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me.

[Hebrews 13:15](#)

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise — the fruit of lips that confess his name.

[Philippians 4:4](#)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

[Psalms 100:4](#)

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

[James 1:2-4](#)

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.