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PRAYER

Lord, we pray for your presence to see, hear, and sense more of what is on your heart. Help us to not just hear you, but also to meet with you today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WARM UP

As a child, did you ever play games that involved hiding? Did you enjoy playing them? Were you good at these games?



WORD

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. ⁴One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. ⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

Psalm 27:3-5 (ESV)

¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. ² I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." ³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. ⁴ He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. ⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, ⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Psalm 91:1-6 (ESV)

■ GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

- 1. On a scale from 1 to 10 (1 = "not at all", 10 = "as close as you can get"), how would you rate the depth of your personal relationship with God and why? (If you believe he exists at all).
- 2. Psalm 27:5 describes God as one who hides us in secret places where harm cannot befall us. Would you say that you are fully under his shelter? Why or why not?
- 3. Do you fully trust God in all things, even in your secrets that no one else knows? Why or why not?
- 4. Psalm 27:4 describes the secret place of God as something that is to be sought after. In other words, it takes effort to "dwell" in his presence. What are some things that might personally pull you away from that "dwelling place"?

5. Both Psalm 27 and Psalm 91 describe being in the presence or in "the secret place" of God as the safest place to be: a refuge from worry, fear, and harm. Have you experienced the refuge and safety of God? If so, what was it like? If not, would you like to experience it? (Opportunity for prayer).

▶ PRAYER LIST