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God is ever present in creation and in the life of the believer. We can learn to discern his presence!

## Discerning God's Presence

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Many Christians today struggle to discern God's presence in their lives and thereby become discouraged during difficult times when they do not see evidence of God activity to sustain them. The Bible promises that God will be with us always and it provides various stories of the activity of God with his people, Israel. He would introduce himself, intervene in their culture and events to reveal himself as their God. He fought their battles, healed their diseases and provided for their needs. He manifested himself in outrageous displays of his power and authority over the elements, life and death and so on.

When meeting God the first time it is apparent that we have encountered God as supreme and that he is more powerful than us. However, the consistent question that has been presented to me over my years of ministry is "how do I identify God working in my life when I can't feel him" Well, the answer is in biblical text. God is ever presence and can be seen in his provision for nature. In the course of times and season and the consistency of day and night. These are just some of the manifestation of the activity of God in the balance of his creation. This God activity affords humankind to eat and be nourished to have provision and sustenance for living. Each of us benefit from the grace of his presence in creation. God has revealed himself in the basics of provision, but most take for granted things such as nature and that his love for us is displayed everywhere, but we miss it because we are distracted and blinded by the need to see and sometimes miss him.

Our senses and the Holy Spirit were given to the believer to feel and discern God's presence in our lives, to come to know God for ourselves and thereby opportunity to discern his voice, his presence, and his operation or God-activity in our affairs and lives. As we learn to be sensitive to the presence of God and to accurately discern his voice and be led by his Spirit, we are able to recognize his presence. [Ps.16:11](#) Discerning the presence of God demands a pursuit of God with intentional effort to know him. Spending time with God in prayer and Bible reading for a sound understanding of the Word of God combined with an intimate and attentive relationship with him all provoke discernment of God's activity in our lives.

The key thing that is essential to discerning God's presence is to spend quality time reading the Word of God so that we can learn the testimony of scripture of how God engaged his people in the Bible. When we know the Word, we are able to live in expectation of God doing the same for us, but we must align our lives with its teaching so that we can anticipate God's partnership.

God's Word teaches that God is ever present to help us and to lead us into all truth. [Ps 46:1](#) So, discerning God's presence requires our attentiveness to relationship with the truth, which is the Word of God. As we engage the Word, listen for God, and pursue him with all of our hearts we are sensitized to the presence of God. A genuine prayer life that is from our heart to God's ignites an intimacy that centers us and thereby stimulates the recognition of his presence in our lives.

Training your spirit and mind to go inside your heart for recognizing his presence requires discipline and intentionality. It is a daily practice and pursuit that will lead to exploits with God and a keen awareness of his presence in your life. It is important to not get caught up in feeling him, but rather acknowledging by faith that he is ever with you and honoring this reality by a life of worship. The more you commune, worship, pray and praise him from an authentic heart you will strengthen your relationship and sensitivity to God.

It is important to understand that we are created for God and not God for us and thereby we are to always be in posture to submit ourselves to him. [Rev 4:11](#) This mindset provokes God's presence as we live in humility and honor of God as supreme. When we really believe that we need him and that he is our life-supply we will seek his involvement in everything. This gives God the opportunity to reveal himself that we may learn to love him most and to yield our lives to him for his loving presence and deliberate acts of love toward us to sustain us in him. God is ever present.



