



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Jehovah Shammah

SPEAKER SP Daniel Foo

THEME Knowing and Experiencing God

DATE 14 & 15 Sep 2019

MESSAGE SUMMARY

JEHOVAH SHAMMAH – THE LORD IS THERE

The Presence of God (Jehovah Shammah) was first mentioned in Genesis 28:15 where God spoke to Jacob and promised to be with him, and this presence continues to be an important part of our lives today. In his sermon, SP Daniel Foo shares about the presence of God, why we need it, and most importantly, how we seek and experience the presence of God.

EXPERIENCING GOD AS JEHOVAH SHAMMAH

1) THE PROMISE OF HIS PRESENCE

God did not promise that life on earth will be without struggles – we will face struggles in different phases and areas of our lives. However, God promised that we will not face these struggles alone, and this is through His promise of His presence with us. (Matt 1:23, Isa 43:2, Heb 13:5).

It is important for us to know why we need the presence of God. Firstly, the presence of God enables us to be spiritually minded, and thus experiencing life and peace (Isaiah 26:3-4, Romans 8:5-6). Secondly, this presence helps us to set God before us and see His intentions in our lives (Psalm 16:8).

Besides knowing the importance of the presence of God, we want to know how to experience it. It is written in scripture that we must seek God with all our heart and all our soul (Deuteronomy 4:29). Seeking God should be our posture in all seasons - good times and bad. We can also experience this presence of God when we draw near to God (James 4:8)

2) THE ROD OF HIS PRESENCE

Like the shepherd's rod protecting sheep from the wolf, the Rod of His Presence protects us and also comforts us in the midst of distresses (Psalm 42:1-3,10-11, Psalm 63:1, 8-9). The Rod of His Presence also provides safety and rest (Psalm 91:1-16).

Besides providing protection, the Rod of His Presence also plays the role of correcting us. SP Daniel Foo shares from scripture, that God chastens those He loves, and this is coming from a space of making someone understand wrongdoing and wanting them to improve (Hebrews 12:6, Proverbs 22:13-15, Proverbs 3:12). Hence, our source of correction always points to God for reproof, correction and instruction (2 Timothy 3:16).

3) THE STAFF OF HIS PRESENCE

The Staff of His Presence on the other hand, provides guidance to the right path (Psalm 23:3), which involves right standing, right believing and right living. The Staff also leads us to provision and peace (green pastures which signifies provision and quiet waters which signifies peace in Psalm 23:2).

4) THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS PRESENCE

The Presence of God is important in our lives, and disconnection can be dangerous. We are reminded from scripture of the warnings of disconnection with His presence (Genesis 4:16, Judges 16:20, 2 Peter 1:9, Romans 1:21-22).

One way we can continue to be in the presence of God as SP Daniel Foo shares is through ministry work. It is written that as we do ministry work, to make disciples, God will be with us and that He will supply us with the strength to do so (Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Peter 4:10-11).

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Presence of God is an important gift promised by God. And as we receive this presence of God, so shall we answer the call of holiness to be consecrated for God, and to ask God for spiritual gifting in the ministries we are directed to.

QUESTIONS

1. What are the functions of the Presence of God as a Rod and Staff? How have you seen these played out in your life recently?

2. It is dangerous for us to disconnect from God's Presence. Have you previously been in a situation where you felt disconnected with God? What did you do to re-establish your connection with Him?

3. The bottom-line of this message is a call to holiness and consecration to live for God. What are the areas in your life that you think you have already set apart for God? What are some other areas of your life that God is calling you to consecrate to Him?