



Where Is God When I Am Far from Home?

December 11, 2022

God With Us

Where Is God when I am far from home?

Wherever we go, God is still with us! But moving is hard.

In our world today, travel is easier than ever but the human need to connect never goes away.

An [ordinary](#) person with an [extraordinary](#) story: [Joseph](#).

God was with Joseph no matter what the place. At home with his father, alone in a pit in the wilderness, in a bad work environment, in jail in a foreign land, and in Pharaoh's palace.

Genesis 37:23-28

So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the ornate robe he was wearing— 24 and they took him and threw him into the cistern. The cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

25 As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt.

26 Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? 27 Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.

28 So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt...

Genesis 37:36

Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

Joseph kept his faith and recognized God's presence!

Genesis 45:4-11

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! 5 And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. 6 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. 7 But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance 8 "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. 9 Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. 10 You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. 11 I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

When God Seems [Far Away](#)

Have you ever [felt like this](#)?

Have you experienced a time when you had no control over your next step or location?

When life feels disrupted, we can feel far from God.

The God Who Is [With Us](#)

Recognizing God's [presence](#) and [power](#) in Jesus.

Why did Joseph stay hopeful and positive when he faced so many tough and uncertain moments?

Can our faith carry us through the times in life when we feel out of control and we seem to be swept away by the currents of the world around us?

Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" 16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: 17 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept. 18 His brothers then

came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. 19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

**Immanuel, God with us, brings the presence and power of [heaven](#) to our [lives](#).
[Unwrap](#) the gift of Jesus.**

Do you believe that Jesus is really with you all the time wherever you go?

Christmas is the reminder that God came, and he will never leave you.