

EVER WONDER WHY?—6 WHEN GOD FEELS FAR AWAY

10:00 am ***5 Min. Count Down - VIDEO -**

10:05 am **LIVE SHOT – ** Worship –**

**WELCOME to The Peak CC Church --- Online Platform – 1st time
... come in as a guest But you leave as family...**

**Self Intro - PEAK INTRO Young /Vibrant / Life Giving Church in
the HEART of Peekskill.**

We are so glad you could join us as we worship the Lord.

***Online Connect Card * RightNow Media**

**Remember: Mon: small Groups / Tue: Prayer / Wed: Women's Small
Group Thu: Bible Study / Fri: Advanced Prayer Meeting Sat: Men's
Fellowship**

Prayers for 1st Responders. PVAC - PD - FireFighters -

International Crisis Response Team.

**SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 10th TRUE NORTH YOUTH
RANCH ****LIVE ONLINE******

LAST WEEK: EWW?? YOU ARE THE ONE GOD LOVES

10:30 AM **Announcements Video - Tithing

10:33 AM **VIDEO "Ever Wonder Why?"



⁸I know the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he [God] is right beside me. ⁹No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice... ¹¹You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.

Psalm 16:8-9, 11 (David) (Keys with verse)

Talk to you today about experiencing presence of God.

How many

Felt presence God? Today?

How do you Know?

Tingly? Cry? Peace?

God's presence can give tingly feeling— Cool Breeze -
Significant other.

God's presence can make you cry— so can a YouTube video /
IG reel.

God's presence peaceful— Beach / Palm Trees— Island
Vibes.

Didn't feel God's Presence?—Who's Fault? God's fault? Is He
holding Back? Ur fault? Not plugged in enough?
Oscar's fault? Worship Ps?

What do YOU do when you want to “feel” God.... But.. you Don't
FEEL G— Is He There? ...Real?—
We're going to answer these ?'s today?

Title of Todays message

When God Feels Distant **Keys**

Opening Prayer

I LOVE being your Pastor: Those I get to see & meet here
locally... & those I get to Pastor/ Coach online. ***Privilege***

recently I've had the priv. to Pastor a young lady through a broken
relationship. Not her 1st... really gave her heart. over invested and
under reciprocated.

Brought up in a certain religion/denomination. Was left empty —
Comes to church by herself.

- Read Bible—Don't understand it.
 - Others sing—Crying obviously feeling something—Numb.
 - When I pray—Don't feel God at all.
-

Want to believe—Don't feel anything.

Can you Relate!

If you don't always feel God's presence—You're not alone!

¹³ But I cry to you for help, LORD; in the morning my prayer comes before you. ¹⁴ Why, LORD, do you reject me and hide your face from me? Psalm 88:13-14 (Psalmist)

- **David**—Running for his life from enemies—Have You Forgotten me?!
 - **Paul**—Blind/Healed—Wander 3 yrs, Suffer obscurity 14 yrs making tents. – no real change impact
 - **Jesus**—Walked w/God— obedience to the Cross — becomes the essence of sin... My God—Why?
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WHY DON'T WE ALWAYS FEEL GOD? (3)

1) **Maybe you're over sensationalizing God's presence.**

looking for that... but its NOT always that...

expectations are on the signs themselves...

Jesus said, “Some people always looking for a sign!”

³⁰ *So they asked [Jesus], “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? John 6:30*

anyone ever ask God for a sign?

- Judges 6:36-40 NKJV

The Sign of the Fleece

So Gideon said to God, “If You will save Israel by my hand as You have said— 37 look, I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor; if there is dew on the fleece only, and *it is* dry on all the ground, then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said.” 38 And it was so. When he rose early the next morning and squeezed the fleece together, he wrung the dew out of the fleece, a bowlful of water. 39 Then Gideon said to God, “Do not be angry with me, but let me speak just once more: Let me test, I pray, just once more with the fleece; let it now be dry only on the fleece, but on all the ground let there be dew.” 40 And God did so that night. It was dry on the fleece only, but there was dew on all the ground.

Ever put something.... anything, before God? questioned Him, provoked Him to an answer ?.....

Expecting to Feel something— Looking for a conviction?
Knowing a particular move was NOT of the Holy Spirit!
questioned.... *What’s wrong with me?*

Feelings aren’t the only evidence of the presence of God!

- **If you always FELT God, you wouldn’t need FAITH.**

....My job is as holy as you can get—Pastor—life coach... Trinity
revealer...

I can count on one hand—(Ordinary days)- with
EXTRAORDINARY DAYS in between them.

1. Maybe you are over sensationalizing it... ... or,

2) **Maybe your heart has hardened.**

*“ ‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be
ever seeing but never perceiving. ¹⁵ For this people’s heart has
become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they
have closed their eyes. Matt 13:14-15 (J quoted Isaiah’s prophecy)*

Maybe you are a Xian—But allowed your heart to cool or, be
hardened.

God didn’t do something—Someone hurt you—Closed heart.
#1 cause of a hard heart—**Ongoing Sin!**

accepting of the excessential circumstances.

hardened heart responds....

Freezing outside—Bundle up.

Coat, Gloves, Hat, Scarf, Boots

Covered in clothes—Can’t feel the cold.

Covered in sin—Can’t feel God.

Is there a sin you've gotten comfortable with?

shopping? ... eating??... Gossiping?...pornography?? substance abuse?

First a Xian—Stopped Drinking—Cussing—Sex.
Bible study, Church, Praying, Fasting, Xian Radio, T shirts.

More about your Performance vs, His Presence.

Religious Duties rather Genuine Devotion.

1. Oversensationalizing it. 2. Maybe heart hardened.

3) Maybe God just wants to draw you closer. (Paul preach Athens)

²⁶ From one man [God] made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. Acts 17:26-27

Noticed how challenges, hard times, suffering—Produce best?
Noticed that comfort, ease, prosperity—Produce the worst?

Deprivation draws out desire!

Don't eat—(Hungry)—Don't drink—(Thirsty)
Don't feel God—Want him more.

God wants to be pursued. Loved. (Jealous) (keys)

¹³ *You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴-I will be found by you,” declares the Lord. Jer 29:13-14*

- **Just because God feels distant doesn't mean God is absent.**

Just because you don't feel him—Doesn't mean he's not there.
Don't believe everything you feel—Feelings aren't facts.

Sometimes—Gotta get out of your feelings—Activate ur faith.

Feel God?—Absolutely—Occasion—Goose Bump, Tingles, Tears.
Ordinary—Everyday—Simple moments

TWFYT —Exactly what you need - Hand picked
Friend reaches out—God put you on my heart....

Your child prays for you before bed. wow
Hear a song—Like it was written for you— IF you seek Him you
will FIND HIM!

This week—Celebrate the birth of X

An angel of the Lord appeared to him [Joseph] in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this

took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will
call him Immanuel”^w (which means “God with us”). Matt
1:20-23 (nativity)

Feel him—Or not—Faith to believe God is always with you!
Faith—He will never leave you... (God is With You)

- When you don't know what to do—W/U—Guide
 - Hurting, life falling apart—W/U—Comforter
 - All alone—W/U—Friend closer
 - Can't sleep, Anxiety—W/U—Peace
 - Sin—Emmanuel—W/U—Savior
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Don't feel God—Maybe oversensationalized—Heart hardened.
Maybe—God wants to draw you close.

- Before you make a presentation—Ask him for help.
 - When you feel anxious—Call out to him.
 - When you don't know what to do—Ask him to guide steps.
 - When you are worried about someone you love—Cast cares.
 - Woke up overwhelmed—Jesus. Jesus. Jesus.
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**Special congregant.. Broken relationships ///
willing, & un willing,,**

Do you sense that God may be with you right now?

He is with you—He is here!

If you seek him—You will find him ...

⁸I know the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. Psalm 16:8

Those of you who are part of our e-family... although you may be far from us.... He is close to you.

Right there where you are... Ask Him to come into your heart. Ask Him to be the garment you put on today. Ask Him to forgive your sins. To help mortify this carnal nature to put on His spiritual One.

Please contact us via our website @thepeakcc.com Let us know how we can come along your side to help your spiritual growth...

I'd like to invite you to connect w/ us...Visitors link... fill out that connect card...

NEXT WEEK: Ending SERMON SERIES

Tell your friends!!!

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you,
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.””

I bless you in the Name of the Father, & of the SON, & of the Holy
Spirit... Amen!!