Pursuit of His Presence

The first leaders hid from His presence when they were facing the consequences of a bad choice.

Adam, the male and the female, chose to disobey God and hid from his presence.

KJV Genesis 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and **Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence** of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

The next generation of leaders, fled from His presence when they made a bad choices.

KJV Genesis 4:16 And Cain **went out from the presence of the LORD,** and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

Cain murdered his brother Abel, and went out from God‘s presence.

Cain’s descendants away from the presence of God: *establishes cities, establishes businesses, establishes music and become very productive* away for the presence of God.

KJV Genesis 3, 4:20-22

🔑 God‘s presence is still in relentless pursuit of mankind.

I

The passage is **Exodus 33:1–5,** following **Israel’s** sin with the golden calf.

God says He will send an angel before them into the Promised Land, ***but He will not go among them.***

"I will send an angel before you… But I will not go up in your midst…" **Exodus 33:2–3**

We should desire God's presence, more than what God has, what God gives, and what God promises and provides!

Exodus 33:11 And t**he LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.** And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

A friend is someone to check on you.

A friend comes around regularly.

Friends share secrets with each other.

A friend knows all about you, but still loves you.

🔑 Moses then intercedes for Israel in **Exodus 33:12–17**, asking God not to abandon them. Related (Exodus 32:34 and Exodus 23:20–23.)

II

Humans don't go after what they need, they go after what they desire.

KJV Psalms 27:4 <u>One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after</u>; that I may **dwell** in the house of the LORD all the days of

my life, to **behold** the beauty of the LORD, and to **enquire** in his temple.

🔑 The proof of desire is pursuit!

KJV Psalms 27:8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my **face**; my heart said unto thee, Thy **face**, LORD, will I seek. 9 Hide not thy **face** far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my **help**; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

We pursue the Lord because we don't want him to hide from us, put us away, leave us or abandon us.

🔑 We ought to praise God that he doesn't *leave us to ourselves*!

III

God's *presence* is the environment we stay alive and thrive in.

KJV Psalms 139:7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy **presence**? 8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, and **dwell** in the uttermost parts of the sea; 10 Even **there** shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

1 **Omnipresent**, everywhere present at all times **Psalms 139:7**

2 **Abiding** presence, and you, **John 15**

3 **Apparent** presence, "but God,"**Ephesians 2:8**

4 **Conspicuous** presence, felt **1 Corinthians 14,**

5 **Manifested** presence, to do **Acts 10:38**

6 **Sustaining** presence, resting **Jude 24**

7 **Tangible** presence, overwhelming **Acts 9** fall down, bow down, fallout.

No matter how much you have *learned and know*, keep "the pursuit" the Lord.

KJV Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: **but this one thing I do, f**orgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 **I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

🔑 Pursue God's purpose, who you were born to be.

🔑 Pursue God's plan, His way.

🔑 Pursue God's presence, His face.

🔑 Pursue God's power, His energy.

🔑 Pursue God's provision, Jesus.

🔑 Pursue God's person, Jesus Christ.

🔑 We have access to His face, His presence in Jesus Christ.

KJV 2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who commanded the **light** to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the **light** of the ***knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*** 7 But we

have this **treasure in earthen vessels**, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

🔑 The glory of God is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

🔑 God‘s face is available to us in Jesus Christ.