



**Worship Activity 4 — God's Presence**  
(50 Worship Ideas, Stuart Townend; Kingsway Publ. 2000)

The heart of the Christian faith is not a set of beliefs, or a lifestyle, or even heaven when you die; it's a living relationship with a loving God. And by the power of the Holy Spirit we can know him and experience his presence right now.

**ACTIVITY**

Ask people to share their experiences of God's presence, whether it was in a meeting, or by themselves. Ask if they can put into words how it felt; peaceful, warm, powerful, gentle? Emphasize that whether we feel anything or not, we can still enjoy his presence, but sometimes God encourages us by touching our bodies or our emotions.

We don't need an exciting message or special songs to know his presence. Encourage people to close their eyes, perhaps lift their hands, and in the quiet enjoy God's presence in the room. Some might find it helpful to picture in their mind's eye Jesus standing in front of them, his arms outstretched to welcome them.

**THANKSGIVING**

- You are always with us.
- We have access to you, not through pious living or religious ceremony, but through Jesus. Your blood is enough to bring us into your very throne-room!
- We can experience your presence not just in a service, but at home, in the car, at work, everywhere.
- Not only do we desire to fellowship with you, but you desire to fellowship with us.

When finished giving thanks, have group members read aloud the following verses and share the summary thought associated with each verse

**SELECTED SCRIPTURES**

Psalm 27:4 — *One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.*

Lord, we lay aside all other needs and desires, in order to seek one thing: to dwell with you, and to see your beauty. We desire only you. By your Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see you now.

Matthew 18:20 — *For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.*

God promises to be present at even the most poorly attended meeting! God's not interested in numbers; he's interested in people who will welcome him.

Psalm 42:1-2 — *As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?*

This is a heartfelt, thirsty cry for your presence, Lord. Make u more hungry for you.

Psalm 139:7-10 — *Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.*

This isn't the cry of a man desperate to escape God. It's the assurance of a man who knows that wherever we are, however high or low we might swing, from the heights of euphoria to the depths of despair and depression — he's not only there, he's holding us fast.

#### **QUOTE**

"If God does not enter your kitchen, there is something wrong with your kitchen. If you can't take God into your recreation, there is something wrong with your play. We all believe in the God of the heroic. What we need most these days is the God of the humdrum, the commonplace, the everyday." Peter Marshall, Sr.

#### **SING**

Listen to or sing a couple of your favorite Worship Song.

**PRAYER** — close your time with prayer! Either select one person to pray or invite all group members to pray with one person designated to close the time of prayer.