

God in the iPod



PART 3: FORSAKEN

INTRODUCTION – Left Out in the Dark

To be hurt, to feel lost
To be left out in the dark...
And no one's there to save you
No you don't know what it's like

~ Simple Plan

Psalm 22

Psalm 13:1; 42:9; 88:13-14; 89:46; 109:1

The Sound of Silence

Hide and Seek...

Isaiah 45:15; Jeremiah 29:13

God wants us to _____ him.

Plugging your ears...

Exodus 20:19

If we _____ not to listen, God will not _____ himself on us.

Deserts and Dark Nights...

Hosea 2:14

God may sometimes be _____ for a season for _____ benefit and growth.

Cross References

Jesus' cry on the cross shows that God _____ with us even in our darkest moments.

Matthew 27:46; Psalms 22-24

One Foot in Front of the Other

Steps forward...

- (1) _____ about it (verses 1-2)
- (2) Remember your _____ (verses 4-5)
- (3) Look forward to the _____ (verses 27-28)
- (4) Make the choice to _____ (verses 22, 25)

CONCLUSION – Closer Than You Think

Isaiah 41:10

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. Read the following lines from "Welcome to My Life" by Simple Plan. "To be hurt, to feel lost / To be left out in the dark / And no one's there to save you." Can you relate to these feelings? Share a time in your life when you may have felt like this.
2. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, puzzled, or perplexed you.

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. Read our key text – **Psalm 22**. (a) What verse stands out to you most? Why? (b) How would you describe David's change in outlook as the Psalm progresses? Why do you think the mood changes? (c) How does this Psalm compare to your own private prayers? To the prayers of your Home Church? What might this Psalm teach us about how we approach God in prayer?
4. Psalm 22 contains a number of verses that have been taken as prophecies of Christ's crucifixion. Take a few moments to read the Gospel accounts of this story, noting as many connections to Psalm 22 as you can find. **Matthew 27:33-50; Mark 15:22-39; John 19:16-30**. (a) Which verses remind you of Psalm 22? Which appear to be direct quotations? Why do you think the Gospel writers made a point of including these details? (b) Psalm 22 was written by King David, and prayed for centuries by the people of Israel as part of their worship. How is this history significant in Jesus choosing to quote these words? (c) Jesus quotes only the first line of the Psalm. How does reading the entire Psalm affect how you interpret his meaning? What might the end of the Psalm have to do with Jesus' experience after crucifixion?

SO WHAT?...

5. How would you characterize your experience of hearing from God in your life right now? (a) "I think God wants me to seek him more." (b) "I know what God is saying, but I have been ignoring Him." (c) "I just can't seem to hear from God, no matter what I try." What do you think are your next steps? Pray for each other in light of this.