## When God Feels Absent P1

Matt VanCleave April 07th, 2024

### We would like your feedback!

Please answer this brief survey to help us provide you with a better small group experience!

https://forms.gle/1miQBLuCAeKLC1qc7

#### **SERMON SUMMARY**

We start a series this week called "When God Feels Absent." What do I do when there's a big battle where everything is at stake and I have to win, but I lose? That's what the Israelites were up against in 1 Samuel 4.

And that's what some of us are up against now. Someone loses a job, carries the weight of depression, goes through cancer treatment, struggles in a marriage, struggles with their children, is betrayed by someone. What do we do when God feels absent?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1.	Why is it important to focus on God's presence and love rather than using Him as a
	means to our own ends?

- 2. What are some ways people might try to control or manipulate God to get what they want?
- 3. How is the glory of God connected to Jesus' resurrection?
- 4. What are some practical ways we can support and encourage others who might be going through a season where they feel the absence of God's glory

5. How does trust and reliance on God's presence help us through challenging circumstances?

#### **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE**

- 1 Samuel 13:19
- 1 Samuel 13:22
- 1 Samuel 4:3
- 1 Samuel 4:16-21

<b>Next Steps</b>
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text oteps		
	I will search my heart to see if there's any way I've been trying to put God in a box.	
	I will wait, and not despair, not give up; I will not quit when God feels absent.	
Pra	yer Request(s)	

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