

Monday - March 13

What do you think? If someone has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, won't he leave the ninety-nine on the hillside and go and search for the stray?

Matthew 18:12 (CSB)

I see God. Anywhere. Everywhere. Always. In the stillness and in the noise. At work and at church. In happy or sad. In birth and in death. However, if I'm really truth telling, I'd acknowledge that more often than not I'm running through the day not looking for God. It's more like, "I've got this God, I'll catch you later in the car, or right before bed or something, love you!" I find that I'm most effective in my "heart-filled God moments" when I'm pausing and invitational. Although I'm humbled and somewhat chagrined that I have to tell myself to "pause," God's great omnipresence by definition is widespread, constantly encountered and everywhere at the same time. Basically, He's running with me and pausing with me, working with me and resting with me. With the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel (God with us) is assured. It's like God knew I was going to fail in my relationship standards with Him so He promised to be with me always so I'd get it right and never be alone.

I once heard a pastor examine Psalm 23 and the reference to people as sheep. God didn't reference us as lions, or wolves but as sheep. In looking to the rod and staff, we are comforted to know we are safe, we are not alone and our Savior knows the way. Whether we are by His side or straying in the vastness of an open field of darkness, He's got us. He promises to look for us when we are not in his fold, a beautiful promise that has never been broken.

Dana

Prayer: Holy God, thank you for Your promises and the fulfillment of Your promises. Amen.