

WHEN GOD SEEMS DISTANT

WHY SO FAR AWAY?

- Causes of distance in relationships
 1. Physical distance - proximity changes / long distance relationships
 2. Distractions - business of life / scattered focus
 3. Dilemmas and Difficulties - a singular focus on working through challenges
- Similar principles apply to our relationship with God
 1. Dilemmas / Difficulties - dominate our focus / time and energy
 2. Distractions of life - too busy and scattered to connect
 3. Distance - God has not moved so we can choose to come closer (*Psalms 73:23-24, 28 NKJV*)

LESSONS FROM A WOMAN WHO CHOSE TO COME CLOSE (*Matthew 15:21-28 NKJV*)

- She believed Jesus was good and He was her answer
 1. She came looking for Jesus - to solve a problem with her daughter
 2. Being a non-Jewish woman was not in her favor
- She could have become angry and offended and quit
 1. Jesus did not answer her
 2. The disciples would not appeal on her behalf
- She made adjustments and kept coming
 1. She stopped yelling and worshiped the Lord
 2. Could have been offended and quit at the little dog comment
 3. She left with her answer

WHEN GOD SEEMS DISTANT TO YOU

- Choose to believe God is great and good to you
 1. What you believe is important (*Hebrews 11:6 NKJV*)
 2. Believe God is
 3. Believe God is good; a rewarder of the ones who seek Him
 4. Thanking God for His goodness and His goodness to you (*Psalms 107:8-9 NKJV*)
- Make it more about God than you
 1. The woman worshipped, then asked Jesus for help
 2. Jesus taught us to start with the Lord, not us (*Matthew 6:9-11 NKJV*)
- Make adjustments, just don't quit
 1. Keep coming. Keep seeking. Keep worshipping.