Joy in God's Presence

Scripture:

Psalm 84 - Also: Psalm 16:11; 139:1-24

Discussion Questions

What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scripture passages?

- 1. Where (in what situations in life) are you most naturally aware of God's presence? Why?
- 2. Where (in what situations in life) are you most naturally unaware of God's presence? Why?
- 3. This statement was made in the sermon:
 - "JOY is the convergence of God's presence and our awareness of God's presence."
 - Where have you seen that in your life? In others' lives?
- 4. In the sermon, there were a number of specific situations pointed to in Scripture that can connect us to an awareness of God's presence:
 - His good gifts (James 1:17)
 - Broken hearts (Psalm 34:18)
 - The gathering of His people (Matthew 18:20)
 - When the Holy Spirit is working in you somehow (John 14:16)
 - While you're on mission (Matthew 28:20)
 - When you see or experience reconciliation (Zephaniah 3:17)
 - When we pray (1 John 5:14)
 - When we confess our sins (1 John 1:9)
 - When you are tired (Matthew 11:28-30)
 - What is your reaction to those things?
 - What other Scriptures come to mind?
- 5. How do you see our world (including those outside faith in Jesus) struggle with the reality of God's presence?
- 6. How can you help them?

What will you do this week to cultivate an awareness of God's presence with you?