<u>Pastor's Weekly Devotional</u>- May 11, 2017 "When God is Silent"

Yes, we all love silence. It helps us relax. Relieves stress. Brings peace. Tranquility. But what do we do when God is silent? The Psalmist understood this. In desperation, he cried out to God: "Do not be far from me. For trouble is near and there is no one to help" (22:11). How do we survive such silence?

Here are a few personal thoughts which have helped me in times of God's Silence:

<u>First</u>, TELL GOD ABOUT YOUR PROBLEM. Though Heaven may feel like brass and your prayers seem to go no further than the roof, be assured that God has heard your cries, seen your tears and is fully aware of your desperate situation. Why doesn't He do something about it? I REALLY DON'T KNOW! What I do know is that He is a good God even when all appearances and circumstances seem otherwise.

<u>Second</u>, REMIND YOURSELF OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO YOU IN THE PAST! Disallow spiritual amnesia. God has not changed. His power has not changed. His presence has not changed. He is still dependable. Remind yourself constantly of these truths about God.

<u>Third</u>, DON'T STOP PRAYING! Jesus encourages us to do so: "<u>Ask</u> (and keep on asking), <u>Seek</u> (and keep on seeking, <u>Knock</u> (and keep on knocking)" and God will open the door of answers to your needs eventually. Remember, it took the Tortoise a lot of perseverance to reach Noah's Ark. Be a turtle today! Keep trudging on! Soon you will reach the Ark of safety. Your prayers will be answered. God is trustworthy.

<u>Finally</u>, DON'T STOP PRAISING GOD! Every situation God has under control. Nothing takes Him by surprise. We are alive because of Him. The Bible says: "Have hope in God for you will praise Him." Praise Him in the good times. The Bad Times. At all times!

Here's a wonderful promise from God: "The Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31: 6; Hebrews 13:5).

Have a blessed week! Remember this Sunday is Mother's Day. See you in church Sunday!

Pastor Sewdin