

**June 21, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

**Ps. 73:28** *But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the LORD God, that I may declare all Your works.* (NIV)

Have you ever been in a situation where you were far away from someone you loved? Even with our advanced abilities of communication through phones and the internet, there is something far better when we are able to be ‘with’ someone. It is the presence, the physical touch, the companionship, that makes such a greater difference than a ‘virtual’ connection.

The Psalmist, in this case Asaph, states that it is good to draw near to God. There is nothing better in a Christian’s life, than to spend quality time with the LORD. Asaph uses the term ‘draw near’ to God.

If you find yourself looking to anything else for your peace and happiness, you will be greatly disappointed. Our hope; our salvation is found in no one else except in Jesus Christ the LORD. He is all that matters. The Hebrew word is **kiravat** which means *to come close, to come near, to enter into fellowship*. What a beautiful reminder this is to us. Our Father wants us to come near. He doesn’t hold us at “arms-length.” He wants to hold us in His mighty arms and let us know we are His. **James 4:8a** *Come near to God and He will come near to you.* (NIV) Just as the father was watching for the prodigal son to return, our Father is longing for us to draw near to Him. He is waiting. He is watching. He is calling you to come into His presence right now. Don’t hold back. Don’t walk away, but instead, run into His arms that are open wide.

**Dear LORD, help us to run to You. You are our loving Father and You will always open Your mighty arms for Your children. You long for us to “come home.” You who are weary, tired, afar from Him, come home. He is waiting for you with arms open wide. Thank You LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen.**