

God is Near

When You are Down (Holy Spirit)

December 22/23,2018

John 14:25-27

Big Idea The Wonderful Counselor, God's Spirit, dwells in the Christ follower.

Scripture Proverbs 14:13 John 14:17, 25-27 Matthew 28:20

Discussion Questions

1 Which of the Christmas shows on TV is your favorite? If you like the Charlie Brown Christmas special, do you know the chapter of the Bible Linus reads for the pageant? (It is Luke 2.)

2 Read Proverbs 14:13. Although a bit of a downer, the Bible acknowledges that happy and sad times can coexist. How do you typically feel after the holidays are over?

3 Did you recall the Holy Spirit focused phrases of the Nicene Creed mentioned in the sermon? Read John 14:17, 25-27 What are his attributes and role in our lives?

4 Read Matthew 28:20. How can Jesus leave earth and ascend to heaven but say He will never leave? How does He stay NEAR always?

Next Steps

"The best efforts of the world, or even a generous parent, fall short when compared to what Jesus gives us." What does Jesus give you? Write down a few things the Holy Spirit brings to mind.

Prayer Focus

Ask The Counselor to bring truthful thoughts to your mind regarding your Christmas and New Year expectations so that Jesus is the foundation of your hope. Think about (and/or journal) the fact you have access to Him all the time because He is NEAR in His Spirit!