

Bible Text New International Version	What does the psalm reveal about God and how we are to approach, address, and respond to God?
<p>Psalm 13^[a] <i>For the director of music. A psalm of David.</i></p> <p>¹ How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?</p> <p>² How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?</p> <p>³ Look on me and answer, LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,</p> <p>⁴ and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.</p> <p>⁵ But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.</p> <p>⁶ I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me.</p> <p>Psalm 139 <i>For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.</i></p> <p>¹ You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.</p> <p>² You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.</p> <p>³ You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.</p> <p>⁴ Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.</p> <p>⁵ You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.</p> <p>⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. <i>(continued)</i></p> <p>a. In Hebrew texts 13:1-6 is numbered 13:2-7.</p>	

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<p>Psalm 139 (<i>continued</i>)</p> <p>7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?</p> <p>8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.</p> <p>9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,</p> <p>10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.</p> <p>11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"</p> <p>12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.</p> <p>13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.</p> <p>14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.</p> <p>15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.</p> <p>16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.</p> <p>17 How precious to me are your thoughts,^[b] God! How vast is the sum of them!</p> <p>18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand— when I awake, I am still with you. (<i>continued</i>)</p> <p>b. Or <i>How amazing are your thoughts concerning me</i></p>	

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<p>Psalm 139 (<i>continued</i>)</p> <p>¹⁹ If only you, God, would slay the wicked! Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!</p> <p>²⁰ They speak of you with evil intent; your adversaries misuse your name.</p> <p>²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, LORD, and abhor those who are in rebellion against you?</p> <p>²² I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies.</p> <p>²³ Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.</p> <p>²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.</p>	

Reflections

All believers can feel “set aside” or “forgotten,” as they experience emotional highs and lows. How have you found comfort from God within that “perceived silence”? Recall when you have felt restored in God’s presence.

What does it mean for you to ask the Lord to search, test, and lead you back to His fold? How are you able to see that you were never lost from Him?

