

# **S.O.H.L.**

## **WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS**

*Pronounced "Soul"*

**May 2, 2016**

### **What Did I Say?**

**PSALM 23:4 NKJV – (4)** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

So you did it again, and you are feeling guilty. You are beginning to wonder if you will ever break out of this vicious cycle. You feel like you have confessed the same sin to God more than a hundred times, and you are sure he must be tired of hearing your confession. You promise God and yourself that you will never let it happen again. Soon you find yourself in the same place—you have messed up again, and you are too embarrassed to talk to God about it.

Are you aware of God's presence in your life? Or because of sin, do you feel disconnected from Him? Even though His Spirit dwells in those of us who believe in Jesus Christ and have accepted Him as Lord and Savior, we do not always sense His presence. There may be times when we feel especially close to Him, but on other occasions (especially when chaos is present), He seems distant and uninvolved in our lives.

We tend to judge whether God is with us by our circumstances. If everything is going our way, or He is answering our prayers and meeting our needs, we feel close to Him. But if the Lord is not intervening the way we expect, or our suffering and troubles increase, we may begin to feel that He is distant and unconcerned.

Instead of letting circumstances darken our perception, we must rely on His word! David experienced many difficulties in his life, but he clung to an enduring truth found in **Psalm 23:4**. If we want an increased awareness of God's presence, we must take the time to deepen our relationship with Him.

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

PSALM 16:8-9

#### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Is temptation knocking? Let Jesus get the door!