## In His Presence

By Brooks A. Harris, O.D. 3/10/2021

When we think about being in the presence of someone, we often think about them being in the same room with us. How close you are in a relationship with this person, will influence how you interact with them. If you have never met this person, you may not feel comfortable approaching them, talking to them or asking for help. You may fear rejection and ask yourself: Will they like me? Will they accept me? Will they understand me? Will they even listen to me? Often too, if they are a greatly admired person, you may even have stage-fright and not know what to say.

When it comes to your prayer life, how freely do you talk to God? Often new Christians, who are not used to praying, get stage-fright, not knowing how to approach the Almighty Creator of the Universe. Will God accept them or even listen to them? When you become a Christian, at the moment of your salvation, the Holy Spirit of God comes to you and takes up residence in you alongside your spirit, ready to listen to you at any time. As you grow in your Christian faith, you begin to understand more and more the fact that God is always with you and wants you to talk to Him.

Since God is always with you, you can talk to Him anywhere, anytime and about anything. He is always ready to listen to your thoughts and your spoken words. The more you talk to Him, the more comfortable you become sharing your thoughts and concerns. Since His Spirit has lived in the bodies of millions of Christians over many centuries, He has seen everything that they have done, so, He understands everything that you do, say and think. He will not reject you as long as you accept Him as your God, your Lord and your Savior.

Now, I got to thinking the other day about the Holy Spirit's presence in my life. I know that His Spirit is always with me and He hears and sees everything that I do, say and think, but how differently would I act if Jesus were physically in my presence? It is one thing to acknowledge that an invisible spirit is with you, but a little different when you think about someone always being in the same room with you, physically standing or sitting near you and able to see and hear everything you do, say and even think. This made me realize that I need to monitor myself better. I need to more closely watch that I don't do, say or think anything which is displeasing to God.

So, if you want to develop a very close relationship with God and enjoy His presence, pray to Him everyday about everything. He is better than your closest and dearest friend on earth, because He will listen to your every word, anytime, anywhere and understand you and support you without judging you or telling others what you say. Realize that you are always in His presence and that He loves you and is there to help and comfort you. But realize too that He always sees everything that you do. So, if you want to please God, study His Word (the Holy Bible) to learn His commands then obey and trust Him, and start living your life as if Jesus were physically by your side at all times.