# **MORE TO EXPLORE** WEEK OF JULY 30, 2023



## FIND IT IN THE BIBLE:

This week's story comes from the book of Romans. Romans is an epistle, or letter. The book was written by the missionary Paul. In this letter, Paul writes to the Romans and presents a detailed explanation of the Gospel.

#### WHAT DO I DO WHEN I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOD IS WITH ME OR LOVES ME?

There are times you may feel like God is far away. Try reading your Bible, talking with God or journaling. Sometimes the things we watch (live movies or social media) or listen to can affect how we feel too. Remember, if you are a child of God, He is always with you! But sometimes we need to turn off distractions and spend time with Him!

### **OT-NT CONNECTION**

The book of Psalms is full of the prayers of people thanking God for His presence. It is a good place to go when we aren't sure what to pray.

- God is faithfully with us (Psalm 23).
- God is with us and is our refuge (**Psalm 46**).
- We can trust God and know He with us in trouble (Psalm 91).

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**Psalm 62:8** says: Trust in [God] at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. David was facing serious trouble, and yet he knew God was a safe place to pour out his heart. Write an honest prayer to God, pouring out your heart and your feelings to Him.

#### I STILL SIN EVERY DAY; DOES THAT SEPARATE ME FROM GOD?

We are imperfect humans who sin every day. If we have accepted Jesus as our Savior we are a child of God. When we sin, we remain God's child, but our closeness and fellowship with God suffer. We can have confidence God will forgive us when we ask Him to, and that He will restore our fellowship with Him. **1 John 1:9** says: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



Read **Ephesians 1:3-6** and **John 1:12-13**. Be encouraged God chose you before the foundation of the world. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, God accepts you as His son or daughter. He loves you with a love that can never be taken from you.

