

Sermon Questions for October 10, 2010
"ABSENCE"
Series: Christ in the Noisy Life

If you have never heard the voice of God, what has that been like for you? If you have heard His voice, and later did not, what was that like?

Describe a time when it seemed like the world caved in on you and you felt God was far away. How did you get past that sense of God's absence? What was the turning point for you?

Christian mystics have called times when they experienced God's absence, "the dark night of the soul." Have you ever experienced this? (Sometimes it comes unexpectedly and not due to any particular life circumstances.)

In the book of Job, Job's friends made attempts to comfort Job, but instead they accused him of sin or a lack of faith. How did Job come out of his experience of the absence of God?

Read Psalm 22:1-2. What is going on in this Psalm? What is the emotional sense of it? Why did Jesus quote this Scripture in the New Testament? (find it in the Gospels) What was going on? What does it mean that Jesus felt the absence of God?

If a friend were experiencing a time of God's absence in their life, what would you say or not say to them? How might you be of help or comfort?