

BY MS ESTHER TAN

PSALM 139

Psalm 139 is a praise hymn to God written by David who celebrates God omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence.

As David declares in Psalm 139:1-5, our Lord has perfect knowledge of us and know us intimately. He knows our everything; our ways, our thoughts, our words. He knows us more than we know ourselves.

God is always with us. His presence surrounds us in all seasons of life. Even when we turn our back on Him, He is there waiting patiently for us to return "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?" (Psalm 139:7-12)

We are "fearfully and wonderfully made" by Him (Psalm 139:14). Our God's active and creative powers designed and mold us even when we are in our mother's womb. He has foreknowledge and purpose for our lives.

So if we have a God who created us, knows us perfectly and is always with us, why do we need to run away from Him?

My husband and I made the mistake of running away from God during a season of hurt in 2007 when we had been trying for a child. It was a hurtful but probably not conscious remark by a church member of "maybe the reason why we didn't have a child was because we weren't faithful enough and didn't pray enough".

Avoiding the person led us to stop going to church totally.

But God's mercies and grace led us back to Him and healed us when we were in Beijing for a work stint.

When we came back to Singapore, the unkind words were a thing of the past – His presence and His people mattered more than an unthinking remark.

His strengthening grace was with us and healed me.

So let us turn to God to fix the brokenness in our lives; surrender all our sins, our heartaches and defeats onto Him. Pray today like David "search me, God and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts" (Psalm 139:23). Let us be honest and let His love and His mercies lead and guide us the rest of our lives.

Let us chase after the God who knows us so that we know ourselves.