



Proverbs 3:5-7
**What to do when we
feel or think that God
is not there**

Sermon 4:
Dancing with the invisible God:
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The image of dancing has changed. It's not so sissy for men to learn to dance any more. John and I have had dancing lessons. They have taught me more than the steps!

Romans 8:38-39. "Nothing can get between God and us..." but sometimes we feel that we're not dancing with Him. 2 things to know and remember:

1. Our **union** with God is assured
2. Our **communion** with God can be disturbed

We need to hold fast to our relationship with God, even when you think He's not there. He's dancing with you all the time – even when you're asleep.

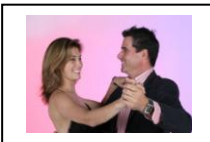
1. Union = agreement; harmony resulting from the uniting of individuals; concord. **Romans 3:23-24** God recreated the union with us that was damaged in the Garden of Eden. **We have a covenant with God – not a contract.**

Difference between a **contract and a covenant**? A contract is a legal instrument used to document what two parties plan to do. Builder builds house. You pay. Job done. A covenant is a special contract between people who love each other. John 10:11-14. Shows a covenant relationship where both parties **make the cause of the other their own cause**. This is the lesson of the good shepherd. Christ makes the life of the sheep as important to him as his own life. **This shows you our union is assured.**

2. Communion = In **Christianity**, the basic meaning of the term *communion* is an especially close relationship of Christians, as individuals or as a Church, with God and with other Christians.

This is the part that **WE HAVE CONTROL OVER**. How can we affect our communion with God? **Missing our step** (e.g. Distraction from time with god); **Being tripped** (e.g. sin); **having the rug pulled from under you** (e.g. lose your job); **Sudden "loss" of communication with God** (e.g. feel god doesn't hear our prayers)

In ballroom dancing the "hold" is very important. It is a circle of strength and is carried in the shoulders of the Couple. Dancing becomes very intimate. The man ALWAYS leads and the lady follows by pressure from the man's right hand. **This circle of strength when dancing with GOD can be misleading if we're not careful. We may be leaning on the wrong strength that is, our own strength.**



Abraham's story: Genesis 12:1-2; God chooses Abraham. God gave Abraham a dream and a promise of many descendants. When Sarah couldn't conceive, Sarah tried to "hurry God up" and gave Hagar to her husband and Ishmael was conceived. But Ishmael was NOT the son God had promised. He was the son of Abraham's impatience. Abraham stopped dancing with God. He stopped following God's lead. IMAGINE - if Abraham had waited for God to deliver the son God had promised. There would be no war in Israel! When we try to do God's will in our own way and according to our own timetable, we are giving birth to Ishmael, not Isaac.

Moses story (Exodus) shows Moses continually waiting on God. And every time he waited and obeyed God there was another test. Moses to ministry and then seem to deliberately thwart his efforts. God was teaching the people of Israel to wait and trust Him.

Sometimes we fall into a "black hole". You probably know quite a bit what that feels like—you feel in the pit of adversity. Your world is collapsing. Life out of control, AND God is silent. You call..no answer.

The silence of the black hole is deafening. You feel isolated and alone. You question God's love, His care for you and even His existence. This black hole usually occurs at the beginning of a crisis when the heat is the greatest. And when God seems strangely silent. It's a living nightmare. And NOW its' time to hold on to God. He places us there to teach us to trust Him with our WHOLE hearts. Trust his timing and His deliverance.

Keep trusting Him. Wait believe, love and know that He is dancing with you.

If you feel your communion is disturbed and your dancing is out of step – "Cry out to Jesus"

Hold on to His circle of strength. **KEEP DANCING!**