

# GOD WITH US

12/08/2024 | Pastor Erwin Ramos

**WARM UP QUESTION:** The last time you reached into a box of chocolates, did you get a flavor you enjoyed?

**READ:** Isaiah 9:1, 2, 6 and 7; Psalm 23 and 84

**FOCUS:** God is our Peace in our valley of fears, tears and sorrow.

## **OBSERVE:**

- In Isaiah 9, there was a constant threat to God's people and their inheritance, due to their disobedience and backsliding. Isaiah pointed them toward the birth of a child who would become Israel's peace.
- In Psalm 23, David sings about his valley of fears and the comfort and security he finds in God's presence; in Psalm 86 he describes how those who are in tears find strength in God.
- John 18:1-3 describes how Jesus laid His grief and sorrow at the feet of the Father as He anticipated His betrayal.

## **REFLECT:**

- In Psalm 84, David finds peace by:
  - Dwelling in the house of the Lord (verse 4)
  - Setting his face on seeking the Lord (verse 5)
  - Trusting in the Lord (verse 4)

## **TAKE ACTION:**

- Identify the sources of tears, fears and sorrow you have experienced lately.
- Offer each other your favorite Bible verses of comfort, hope and peace.
- Jesus sought the company of His disciples. Seek each other's company and pray for each other in your times of tears, fears and sorrow.

**PRAY:** *Dear Lord, thank You for being the "Daddy" we can run to when we are overwhelmed with tears, fears and sorrow. Remind us that we are Your body and should seek support from one another. Teach us, moment by moment, to dwell in Your presence, set our intentions on seeking You, and trust You for help in every difficulty. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*