

you can't go forward, you can't go back ...

God seems absent, angry or apathetic ...

so ... what do you do IN THE MEANTIME?

DESERT SONG



I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

philippians 4 verses 12-13

... I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM THIS CURRENT SERIES:

WEEK - 1: A NEW SONG FOR A NEW NORMAL

What do we do when our circumstances make it feel like we're in a desert - and each direction we turn looks the same - relentlessly void and hopeless. Whatever faith we have in these seasons is most definitely challenged ... tested ... and making matters worse - sometimes God seems silent and we interpret that silence as absence, apathy or even anger?

What do we do when there's nothing we can do while we're still journeying the desert? Can we hold on to faith, hope and purpose? Is there a new song we can sing?

THINK ABOUT THESE ...

1. Think about a season of life—childhood, your teen years, college, early adulthood—that you look back on fondly.
What did you enjoy about that season?
2. Have you ever seen someone demonstrate great faith in God despite difficult circumstances? If so, how did that person's faith influence your own?
3. When have you faced a difficult event or season in life that caused you to feel you'd never be happy again or that no good could come from what you were experiencing? What happened?
4. Think about a time when you felt God was absent from your life, apathetic about what you were going through, or angry with you. How did it influence your relationship with him?
What did you do?
5. **Read Matthew 11 verses 1-11.** How do John's doubts and questions about God's love and care mirror your own?

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM THIS CURRENT SERIES:

6. If you're currently in the middle of difficult circumstances or when you are in the future, what are some practical things you can do to remind yourself that God hasn't abandoned you? Do you have someone or a group of people who can help shore up your faith when God seems silent?

THINKING REVOLUTIONARY ...

Sometimes God seems silent. But that doesn't mean He's absent, unconcerned, or angry. God's presence, love and concern for you are compatible with your circumstances - not evidence of a lack of it. You may need to know that someday.
You may need to know it today.

READ AND THINK ABOUT THESE WORDS (MEMORIZE THEM IF YOU CAN!):

"Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

Matthew 11 verse 6