



**GLOSSARY**  
**ASK:** Ask a question that will help them to think about how this information makes a difference in the life.  
**SHARE:** Talk about your own experience as a disciple of Jesus.  
**EXPLAIN:** This is a piece of information that will help to explain the topic.

## How can God be everywhere at the same time?

'Can anyone hide from me in a secret place?  
 Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth? says the Lord.'  
 Jeremiah 23:24 (NLT)

### Chat

- ASK:** Have you ever wished that you were able to be in two places at the same time? What did you end up doing? How did you decide where to go?
- SHARE:** Share about a time that you had to make a choice between two places or events you were invited to. If you went to one, how did you feel about missing out on the other? If you tried to go to both, did this limit how much you could participate?
- EXPLAIN:** We know that we can only be in one place at a time, but the Bible tells us that God is not limited to being in one place at a time like we are! The Bible tells us that God is everywhere. We call this **OMNIPRESENT**... that's a really big word that means "everywhere at the same time".  
 Can you say it with me? OM-'NEE'-PRES-ENT  
 The Bible tells us that God sees **EVERYTHING**: "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight." (Heb 4:13 NLT). If God sees everything,

then he must be able to be in more than one place at a time!  
Our human bodies can only be in one place at a time, but we know that God doesn't have a body like ours.

## ACTIVITY

Play a game of Hide and Seek.

ASK: Which of us was the best 'hider'? What do you have to do to be a good 'hider'? (finding a place you think no-one will look or know about). If you were playing Hide & Seek with God, who would win every time? Why? (God - there's no place we can hide where God is not already there).

EXPLAIN: The great thing about God is that he doesn't try to hide from us. He is everywhere, all the time, and he wants us to find him! God is ALWAYS present with us.

ASK: Can you think of different ways that God might be present with us? [look up the verses and discuss the points below as the child offers them as responses]

EXPLAIN God was present in human form as Jesus:  
"Christ is the visible image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15 NLT)  
He is present in his creation:  
"He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together" (Col 1:17 NLT)

He is present through the Holy Spirit :

"the Holy Spirit will come and help you, because the Father will send the Spirit to take my place. The Spirit will teach you everything and will remind you of what I said while I was with you." (John 14:26 CEV)

ASK: What times of day do you think God is with us? What types of situations do you think God can be with us in?

EXPLAIN: God is with us day and night, and everywhere we go, and in everything we do! He wants to help us when we need it, and also wants to share happy times with us.

ASK: Can you think of a sad or scary time when you asked God to be with you? Can you think of a happy time when you felt God was with you?

SHARE: Share about a time when you were aware of (or asked for God's presence) eg. time of trouble, sickness, fear, grief, joy, decision making, special time — wedding, funeral, dedication.

EXPLAIN: God loves us to talk to him and ask him to be with us, but he is really with us all the time (even when we don't realise). The Bible tells us that God's Spirit actually lives within us:

"Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him.

Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong." (Eph 3:17 NLT)

"All of you surely know that you are God's temple and that his Spirit lives in you." (1 Cor 3:16 CEV)

EXPLAIN: Sometimes God might use US to show other people that he is with them. Because his Spirit is in us, it is everywhere at the same time!

ASK: Can you think of a time when you helped someone else because you felt God wanted you to?

**EXPLAIN:** The Bible tells us that God is with us because he wants to love, protect and guide his people. But even more than that, it also tells us that **NOTHING** at all can separate us from him. We can never go anywhere where God's Spirit is not present.

I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future,<sup>39</sup> and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord! (Romans 8:38-39 CEV)  
I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me. (Psalm 139:7-10 NLT)

**(choose from the following activities as appropriate)**

### Activity

Activity: (if it is cold outside) Just like God's spirit, we can't usually see our breath. But when the air outside is very cold, and we breathe out, we can see our puffs of breath clearly! They disappear, but we know they are still there, all around us. When you see your breath on a cold day or night, remember that God is all around you all the time.

### Activity

We can't see God's presence, so you will need to use your imagination for this activity! Fold or draw lines to divide a sheet of paper into 4 quarters. Draw a picture of God's spirit:

- ◆ Helping you
- ◆ Celebrating with you
- ◆ Guiding you (to do something or to go somewhere)
- ◆ Helping someone else, through you!

### Activity

Take a sponge and a bowl of water.

**EXPLAIN** God's spirit is like the water, and his people and his creation are like the sponge. God is present everywhere in his creation, but he is still separate from it.

Submerge the sponge in the water.

**EXPLAIN** See how the water fills up the sponge completely? Although the water fills up the sponge, it is still different to the sponge (like God is different to us), but it fills up the sponge completely, in all places, at the same time. If we had a bathtub full of water, the water would fill the sponge and still be all around it.

But God is still different to water, because he can't be kept in a bowl or a bathtub. And he can't be squeezed out. God is not limited in any way by us or his creation, the heaviest rocks can't keep him out or hold him in. The deepest oceans can't cover him up. God is everywhere!

## Application

Even though you can't see *God's* presence with you, you can be sure that he is always there, and sometimes you will even feel it! Knowing that *God* is always with us can help us to make the right choices about what we say and do, because we know that *God* is right there helping us.

## Prayer

What would you like to talk to *Jesus* about?

What are you happy about?

Is there anything that is making you feel sad?

What can you thank *Jesus* for?

Is there anything that you are sorry about?

Is there something you would like *Jesus* to help you with?

What would you like to pray for?

## Prayer

Dear *God*, Thank you that you love us so much that you want to be everywhere all the time to be with us. Thank you for giving your spirit to me, to live in my heart, and to help guide me. Please help me to always remember you are with me, even if I can't see you. Amen

## Journal

As you go through this week, make a list (or draw a picture) of the times you realised that *God* was with you. Look for opportunities to share *God's* presence with other people.



## Little Chats - How can God be everywhere at the same time

### Journal Activity

As you go through this week, make a list (or draw a picture) of the times you realised that God was with you. Look for opportunities to share God's presence with other people.

## Prayer

What would you like to talk to Jesus about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are you happy about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything that is making you feel sad? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What can you thank Jesus for? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything that you are sorry about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is there something you would like Jesus to help you with? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to pray for? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear God, Dear God, Thank you that you love us so much that you want to be everywhere all the time to be with us. Thank you for giving your spirit to me, to live in my heart, and to help guide me. Please help me to always remember you are with me, even if I can't see you. Amen