

# mercEmail

A Weekly Devotional from the  
South Green Street Church of Christ

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## Hide And Seek

by Steve Higginbotham

**H**aving just been shopping with my children during the holiday season, I was reminded how difficult it is to keep up with your children when you're shopping. It matters not how many times you tell your children to stay by your side, there is one thing or another that will catch their eye, and easily distract them.

In the past, I've used such instances to teach my children a lesson. I intentionally hide from them. Not out of site, not in a way that would endanger them, just far enough and long enough for them to look up, see no familiar faces, and get the chilling realization that they're lost. I then quickly "reappear" and remind them of how important it is to stay by my side, because being lost is a scary thing and they wouldn't want that to happen.

Well, as I reflect on this little game of "Hide and Seek" that I sometimes play with my children, I can't help but wonder if God ever plays the same game with us. He constantly beckons us to his side, but we often get distracted by things in the world, and we separate ourselves from him. Could it be that from time to time, God allows us to experience some uncomfortable and disconcerting situations in life in an effort to cause us to look up, seek him, and return to a closer walk by his side?

Friends, next time circumstances make life uncomfortable for you, don't panic. Instead, use those circumstances as reminders to seek out God, and walk more closely by his side.