

## God of Encouragement

### Description

Psalm 10:12-18

When we brought our first child home from the hospital, like many parents, we did not know what to expect. When our daughter would smile, we would delight in it. When she laughed, we laughed along. When our child would cry, we wondered if she was hungry, wet, sad, hot, cold, or just needed attention. Her way of communicating was crying.

I am reminded of those days when I wondered why my daughter was crying. God knows our heart knows and knows our souls. Yet knowing, He still listens, cares, and responds to our cries. His care is a tremendous display of love and attention to us, our need, and our hurt.

God is present in our afflictions and meets us with encouragement. He listens, hears our cries, and encourages us in our affliction. As we see others facing affliction, we can be reminded to listen, hear their hearts, and bring God's encouragement into their lives. In the act of listening, we are living and breathing the Living God in others' lives. Listening can be an act of encouragement to the afflicted.

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