

God's Holy Solace

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1. I get so lonely here without your warm embrace
You're gone so often now, I miss your face.
I used to think that I'd just hold out 'til the end,
But now I'd rather learn to lean,
On God, on Him to depend. So....

Chorus:

If you can't be here, I'll try to understand,
I know that Jesus will always hold my hand.
God's Holy Solace, is never far away,
He says, "Come on, my weary one, pray."

2. My heart's desire is to be all God wants me to be.
Friend, helper, comrade, in fact, perfect company.
I guess this fiery trial is sent to make me see.
God's plan for my life is to trust through difficulty. So....
Chorus

3. Each day's a mystery, a treasure to unfold.
I will be joyful, no matter what I'm told.
I'll cling to Jesus' love and He will see me through,
He knows my selfish preference is to spend my time with you. But...

If you can't be here, I'll try to understand,
I know that Jesus will always hold my hand.
God's Holy Solace, is never far away,
He says, "Come on, my weary one, pray."

Interlude:

So I plead, "Oh God, I am tired of the pace.
When I'm hurting and lonely
Let me feel Your warm embrace.
When he's too busy, You're close beside.
I know no matter what, In You I can abide.
Your holy Solace is never far away,
You say, "Come on, My weary one, pray."

HISTORY. There was a season when Dave was gone far more than usual. His job always involved travel, but he was traveling

extensively. He was always busy with work, but when he was in town, he'd be up and working by 5:30 a.m. and finally crash into bed about 11 p.m.

There was a reason and for that season it was the right thing to do, but it was terribly difficult for me.

Even when he was home, he was usually sitting at the kitchen table working on his computer. The deadlines he was facing were impossible and the consequences of missing them devastating. Yet, he needed to be near us, which is why he'd sometimes work at home.

The problem was, while he was there in body (and meeting some of his own need for closeness), he wasn't really available to us and sometimes we were an irritating "distraction" to him. It was really hard.

One night I asked to talk to him about my feelings. We shared for a while and then he said something that just took my breath away. He said, "Marnie, what if this is the boot camp for the hard time that's coming?"

I just burst into tears. But once I quit sobbing, I took it to heart. God never allows anything - not one thing - without a reason. And it wasn't too long before God gave me this song, to which I clung like crazy. I sang it, intensely, for six more months before the "boot camp" or "front lines" experience, whichever it was, ended.

Eternity will tell what that season was all about for us, but I know one thing: I emerged with a greater dependence on God and for that I am eternally grateful.