

## **God Gathers - Why Do We Push God Away?**

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*How often I wanted to gather your children together the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings! But you were not willing! (GWN) Luke 13:34b*

Jesus Christ has shown himself more than willing, to receive and entertain any poor soul that comes to him and put themselves under his Lordship. *“How often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen gathereth her brood under her wings, with such care and tenderness!”*

### **How willing are we to give up control?**

I can't speak for other sinners, but I personally like to be in perceived control of my life. Now mind you I have not often done a great job with that control, but I still love the idea that I am in control. Take a step back and look at the reason we sinners struggle with the above verse. We reject God's care and Jesus laments those choices humanity makes. You read that remorse in the verse above, essentially saying, “Oh, how I wished you had taken a different path. That you made wise choices.” Would it be better for you if you trusted in the One who cares for you deeply? Jesus cares for you. His care led Jesus to give His life to save you from your sins.

As we face the tough choices and times in our lives today may God guide us. May He encourage us to trust in Him. The Holy Spirit points us back to the power of the Cross. “It is my desire to gather you, to protect you from the trials of life, and through the blood of Christ give you eternal life.” So often in the midst of life's toughest moments, we feel alone, isolated, wondering, “Where is God in all this?” Know that God is there.

Prayer: Dear heavenly Father, give us hearts ready and willing to receive that word of encouragement and the protection offered by you. In Jesus' name. Amen.