



## **DEEPER: A Deeper Presence**

January 18, 2026 | Pastor Kirk Walters  
Mount Paran North

<sup>7</sup> Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

### **Colossians 2:7 NLT**

<sup>19</sup> And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. <sup>21</sup> And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, <sup>22</sup> let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

### **Hebrews 10:19-22 NLT**

**God has a way of turning an empty place into a holy space.**

#### **1. The Empty Court**

<sup>12</sup> Jesus entered the Temple and began to drive out all the people buying and selling animals for sacrifice. He knocked over the tables of the money changers and the chairs of those selling doves. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be called a house of prayer,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves!"

### **Matthew 21:12-13 NLT**

**God often removes before he restores.**

#### **2. The Empty Holy of Holies**

<sup>50</sup> Then Jesus shouted out again, and he released his spirit. <sup>51</sup> At that moment the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, rocks split apart, <sup>52</sup> and tombs opened. The bodies of many godly men and women who had died were raised from the dead.

### **Matthew 27:50-52 NLT**

### **3. The Empty Tomb**

<sup>1</sup> Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. <sup>4</sup> The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. <sup>5</sup> Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.

**Matthew 28:1-6 NLT**

### **4. How God Fills Empty Spaces**

<sup>19</sup> And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. <sup>21</sup> And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, <sup>22</sup> let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

**Hebrews 10:19-22 NLT**

**Your current empty place can become a holy place if you let God in.**