
WALKING WITH GOD

(HOW TO DEVELOP A PERSONAL AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD)

INTRODUCTION:

The most important thing that you can do in life is have great relationship with God. Some of this comes naturally, but like all relationships, many things are learned. It is important to recognize how important God should be in your life, and how close He desires to be with you everyday. This study is designed to help you learn how to connect with God on a deeper and more intimate level.

Why do you need to spend time with God?

GOD DESIRES AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU

Mark 12:28-31

The Greatest Commandment.

- Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.
- Your relationship with God must be grounded in love.

Revelation 3:14-18

- God takes relationships seriously.
- You must be absolutely committed to God in your relationship.
- This was written to Christians who were not committed, and look at God's response!

Genesis 2:8-22; Genesis 3:8

From the very beginning, God desired a relationship with man.

- Adam and Eve's only purpose in the Garden was to spend time with God and obey Him, spend time with each other, and care for a lush Garden!
- God walked in the Garden with them in the cool of the day.
- From the very beginning, our lives were meant to include God, and our lives will not feel complete without Him. Spending time with God and being obedient to his commands (not trying to hide from Him) is the only way to feel truly fulfilled every day.
- Do you really believe that God loves you and desires to spend time with you everyday?

LEARN TO WALK WITH GOD

Genesis 5:21-24; Exodus 33:11

These heroes of the faith learned the art of walking with God in a corrupt world.

- Moses spoke with God as he would to a friend.
- How is your prayer life? Is it deep conversation as with a friend? Are you hiding things from God? Be open as you would with a friend.

Luke 5:16

Jesus was in constant communion with God and went often to spend time alone with Him.

GET TO KNOW GOD MORE INTIMATELY EACH DAY

Isaiah 54:5-8; Hosea 2:19-20

God describes your relationship with Him like a marriage!

- Spend quality time with God: A “Quiet Time” refers to quality time alone with God.
- Learn to build your relationship with God deeper each day.
- Learn how God feels about certain things - sin, different things of life, etc.
- Don't learn facts as much as understand who He is...the deeper you understand God the deeper you will really love Him.
- Spend consistent time with God: Connecting daily is key - imagine a spouse just not showing up one day!

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Understanding God is the greatest thing you can do!

- “Knowing” someone starts intellectually, then emotionally, then goes to the soul.
- Be fascinated with God's incredible character and nature (Isaiah 55:9).
- Meditate on the wonders of the universe that God has created (Psalm 19).
- Do you believe the most important thing you can boast about is to know God deeply?

Isaiah 26:7-9 - Our souls should long for God constantly.

John 11:32-5; Luke 7:11-15

Don't be afraid to be vulnerable and real with God. He loves you and feels things deeply.

- Jesus wept. Are there emotions in your prayers? Even crying, laughing...these are signs of a real relationship!
- Jesus' heart was moved when he saw the widow in pain. Share your heart vulnerably with God in prayer. He cares about your situation.

CHALLENGE:

Find special ways to connect with God.

- Take a walk with God, sing to God, find a special spot to spend time with Him.
- Does my time with God need to be in the morning?
- Actually, you should walk with God all day long! Jesus was in constant communion with God.
- BUT - it is extremely important to spiritually prepare your heart for the day (which can so easily go astray), and Jesus set the example for this...Mark 1:35.