

EXPERIENCING GOD

GOD PURSUES A LOVE RELATIONSHIP

Created for a Love Relationship

God Himself pursues a love relationship with you. He takes the initiative to bring you into this relationship. He created you for fellowship with Him. That is the purpose of your life. This love relationship can...and should...be real and personal to you.

Can you describe your relationship with God by sincerely saying, "I love You with all my heart?"

Everything in your Christian life, everything about knowing Him and experiencing Him, everything about knowing His will depends on the quality of your love relationship with God.

A Love Relationship with God

A love relationship with God is more important than any other single factor in your life.

Earlier in this study we talked about your life being God-centered. That means your life must be properly related to God. This is the love relationship for which you were Created...a God-centered love relationship. Your walk with God (Father, Son and Spirit) is the single most important aspect of your life. If it is not as it should be, nothing else will function properly.

Scripture leads us to understand that God is saying, "I want you to love Me above everything else. When you are in a relationship of love with Me, you have everything there is." To be loved by God is the highest relationship, the greatest achievement and the noblest position in life.

That does not mean you will never accomplish anything as an expression of your love for God. He will call you to obey Him and do whatever He asks of you. However, you do not need to do something to feel fulfilled. You are completely fulfilled in your relationship with God. When you are filled with Him, what else do you need?

Do you really want to love the Lord your God with all your heart?

God did not create you for time...He created you for eternity. Time – your lifetime on this earth – provides the opportunity for you to become acquainted with Him. It provides occasions for Him to develop your character into His likeness. Then eternity will hold its fullest dimensions for you.

If you live only for time...the here and now...you will miss the ultimate purpose of creation. You will allow your past to shape your life today. Your life as a child of God should be shaped by the future...what you will be one day. God uses your present experiences to mold you for future usefulness here on earth and in eternity.

We need to begin orienting our lives to God's will. His purposes go far beyond time and into eternity. Make sure you are investing your life, time and resources in things that will last...not in things that will pass away. If you don't recognize that God created you for eternity, you will invest in the wrong priorities. You need to store up treasures in heaven.

Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"

This is why a love relationship with God is so important. He loves you. He knows what is best for you. Only He can guide you to invest your life in worthwhile ways. This guidance will come as you walk with Him and listen to Him.

Walking with God

When your relationship is as it should be, you will always be in fellowship with the Father.

Many people say, "I really struggle trying to have time alone with God."

If that is a problem you face, then you need to make the number one priority in your life to love Him with all your heart. That will solve most of the problem you have with your quiet time with God. People who struggle to spend time with God don't have a scheduling problem...they have a love problem.

Learning about Him is not why you should want to have quiet time with Him. The more you know Him and experience His love, the more you will love Him. You will want time alone with God because you love Him and enjoy His fellowship.

God always takes the initiative in our love relationship. The witness of the entire Bible testifies that God pursues us and provides ways for us to experience Him.

In our natural human state, we do not seek God on our own initiative.

God takes the initiative. He chooses us, loves us and reveals His eternal purposes for our lives.

The love God focuses on your life is an everlasting love. From that love He has pursued you...when you were not His friend but His enemy. He gave His own Son to die for you. To firmly anchor your experiencing God and know His will, you must be absolutely convinced of God's love for you.

Do you realize God determined to love you? Apart from that, you never would have become a Christian. He had something in mind when He called you. He began to work in your life. You experienced a love relationship with God when He took the initiative. You cannot know God's activity unless He takes the initiative to reveal it to you.

God's plan for the advancement of His kingdom always depends on His relationship with His people. The relationship God wants to have with you will be real and personal. Some people think that God is far off and unconcerned about their day-to-day living and wonder if they can actually have a real, personal and practical relationship with Him.

Scripture teaches us that we can. From Genesis to Revelation we see God relating to people in real, personal, intimate and practical ways.

Do you see in scripture that God became real and personal to people? Can you see that their relationships with God were practical? Has God changed?

Your life can reflect a real, personal and practical relationship as you respond to God's work in your life.

A relationship with God IS real and personal. This has always been His desire. God is a Person pouring His life into your. Christianity is a personal, practical, progressive relationship with Almighty God.

God's Presence and Work in Your Life Are Practical

God is an extremely realistic God. The God revealed in Scripture is real, personal and practical. You can trust God to be practical and real as He relates to you too. God's constant presence is the most practical part of your life. Unfortunately, we often assign God a limited role in our lives. Then we call on Him whenever we need help.

That is the exact opposite of what we find in God's Word. He is the One who is working in our world. He invites you to relate to Him so He will accomplish His work through you.

Knowing and experiencing God through a real and personal relationship was practical in the Scriptures. You will find that this kind of walk with God will be very helpful to you. God can make a significant difference in your relationships with your family, in your church and with other people. You can encounter God in such a way you KNOW you are experiencing Him.