

INTIMATE FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

The Key to Everything Good

“Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,’ and he was called God’s friend.” James 2:21-23 NIV

I. The purpose of the Gospel is friendship

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

II. Why develop a deep friendship with God?

BECAUSE:

- a. I love Him and am grateful that He saved me - 1 John 4:19
- b. I need His healing touch - Psalms 139:23-24
- c. I need His guidance - Proverbs 3:5-6
- d. I want to finish and finish strong - 2 Peter 1:3-4

III. Objections - Why I can’t enjoy quality time with God?

- a. Too many demands on my time - Matthew 6:33
- b. Can’t understand my Bible - John 14:26
- c. My mind wanders - Romans 12:1-2

IV. How to have a “Quiet Time” with God

- a. Pick a place
- b. Pick a time
- c. Pick a plan
- d. Work on your plan (Vary your plan from time to time)

V. A Sample Plan - (Our ultimate goal - at least 60 minutes with God)

- a. Ingest the “Logos” (the written Word) - ¼
- b. Meditate on a passage - ¼
- c. Devote yourself to “Listening Prayer” - ½

Ask your loving Father specific questions and by faith expect a rehma - a personal word from God for you - James 1:5-8. (Note: A true *rehma* will never contradict God’s written Word)

MY FAVORITE QUESTIONS:

FATHER,

- What do you want to discuss with me today?
- Have I offended you in any way?
- How could I be a better husband/wife?
- How could I be a better dad/mom?
- How could I be a better friend?
- Is there someone you would have me contact today?

***“We are too busy to pray, and so we are too busy to have power.
We have a great deal of activity but we accomplish little;
many services but few conversions; much machinery but few results.”***

R.A. TORREY