



How do I Develop a Relationship with God?

V. Deeper Relationship



“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”
– James 4:8



The Depth of Relationships



- Foreign
- **Familiar**
- **Fellowship**
- Friendship
- Family
- Fundamental



Last lesson:

Qualities that do not require a very deep and connected relationship



The Depth of Relationships



- Foreign
- Familiar
- Fellowship
- **Friendship**
- **Family**
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This lesson:

Qualities of personal relationships that are deeper



The Depth of Relationships



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Next Lesson:

Unique qualities of our deepest personal relationship



The Depth of Relationships



- Foreign
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This lesson:

Qualities of personal relationships that are deeper



Intimate

- Pertaining to the inmost character of a thing; fundamental; essential
- Most private or personal
- Closely acquainted or associated; very familiar



Friends and Family

Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 18:24 A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.



Intimacy with God

- No one knows us better – Psalm 139; Matt. 10:29-31



Psalms 139:1-4

O LORD, You have searched me and known me.
2 You know my sitting down and my rising up;
You understand my thought afar off.
3 You comprehend my path and my lying down,
And are acquainted with all my ways.
4 For there is not a word on my tongue,
But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.



Matthew 10:29-31

Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin?

And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.



Intimacy with God

- No one knows us better – Psalm 139; Matt. 10:29-31
- No one loves and appreciates us more – Eph. 1:3-6



Ephesians 1:3-6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.



Intimacy with God

- No one knows us better – Psalm 139; Matt. 10:29-31
- No one loves and appreciates us more – Eph. 1:3-6
- Do we know Him and accept Him?



Commitment

- A pledge or promise to do something
- The determination to follow through on an obligation



Commitment

- God's commitment to us
 - Is stronger than a mother's - Isa. 49:15-16



Isaiah 49:14-16

But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me,
And my Lord has forgotten me." 15 "Can a
woman forget her nursing child, And not have
compassion on the son of her womb? Surely
they may forget, Yet I will not forget you. 16
See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My
hands; Your walls are continually before Me.



Commitment

- God's commitment to us
 - Is stronger than a mother's - Isa. 49:15-16
 - Is demonstrated by His suffering - 1 Pet. 3:17-18



1 Peter 3:17-18

For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,



Commitment

- God's commitment to us
 - Is stronger than a mother's - Isa. 49:15-16
 - Is demonstrated by His suffering - 1 Pet. 3:17-18
- Our commitment to God
 - Is based on His - Heb. 12:1-4



Hebrews 12:1-4

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. 4 You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.**



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 - Is demonstrated by His suffering - 1 Pet. 3:17-18
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 - Is based on His - Heb. 12:1-4
 - Binds us to each other - 2 Tim. 1:7-8



2 Timothy 1:7-8

... God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. 8
Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but **join with me in suffering for the gospel** according to the power of God,



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 - Binds us to each other - 2 Tim. 1:7-8
 - Is lifelong - Rev. 2:10



Revelation 2:10

... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.



Sacrifice

The act of giving up, destroying, permitting injury to, or forgoing something valued for the sake of something having a more pressing claim



John 16:21

"Whenever a woman is in labor she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world.



Sacrifice

- God's sacrifice for us – Rom. 5:6-9



Romans 5:6-9

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.



Sacrifice

- God's sacrifice for us – Rom. 5:6-9
- Our sacrifice for God – Phil. 3:5-11; Rom. 12:1



Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.



Philippians 3:4-11

... If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. 7 **But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ**



Sacrifice

- God's sacrifice for us – Rom. 5:6-9
- Our sacrifice for God – Phil. 3:5-11; Rom. 12:1
- The act of giving up, destroying, permitting injury to, or forgoing something valued **for the sake of something having a more pressing claim**



A Deeper Relationship with God

- Intimacy
- Commitment
- Sacrifice