

Living Daily with God

When we come to Christ, the barriers between us and God are broken down, and God Himself lives within us through His Holy Spirit. In other words, we now know God and He knows us. Think of it: We have a personal relationship with the God of the universe!

But like any other relationship, it needs to be nurtured and strengthened. If it isn't, it will wither and grow cold; God will seem distant to us, and we will no longer think of Him as our friend. We might even drift into behaviors that don't honor Him and instead lead us to destruction. The Bible warns, "Do not love the world or anything in the world. ... The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever" (1 John 2:15, 17).

Worldly values include greed, lust and obsession with one's status. Godly values include serving and loving others and humility.

So how do we learn to do God's will—to walk with Him—every single day? Think of a human friendship: How do we grow closer to someone on a human level? By spending time with that person—talking, listening, sharing concerns and lending a hand when he or she needs help.

The same is true with God. When we read or hear His Word, the Bible, He speaks to us. When we pray, we speak to Him. And when we worship Him and obey Him, we are doing His will and participating in His work.

Followers of Christ are often called disciples. Once you decide to follow Him, it's important to begin a life of discipleship, following His teaching and telling others what He has done for us on the cross. If you have not already done so, try to organize your day so that you have a special time to spend alone with God. Be sure you don't neglect this "quiet time" because it will give you strength and power to resist Satan (James 4:7), to live above your circumstances (Romans 5:3-5) and to become a victorious Christian (1 Corinthians 10:13). It's also important to read your Bible daily. This will help you mature spiritually (Colossians 1:10; Ephesians 3:17-19).

As you give your heart and life to Christ, you will grow as a Christian. Worship and fellowship in a Gospel—preaching church are also necessary for spiritual growth. See the section entitled "Church" for more.

