

Eternity

#4: How To Have A Real Relationship With God

Colossians 3:1-2 *Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.*

1. Understand _____

Genesis 2:18 *The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone.*

Acts 17:23 *...for as I was walking along I saw your many shrines. And one of your altars had this inscription on it: 'To an Unknown God.' This God, whom you worship without knowing, is the one I'm telling you about.*

Romans 5:10 *For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.*

2. Spend time _____

a) Read your Bible: This is how you _____

James 1:22-24 *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*

b) Pray for 5 minutes: This is how _____

Matthew 6: *...when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*

3. Make the relationship with _____

Philippians 3:8 *Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ.*

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How To Read Your Bible

- a. 10 minutes per day of reading or listening
- b. Try a modern version like the New Living Translation
- c. Read Psalms, Proverbs, Matthew, Mark, Luke & John
- d. Watch for something to strike you: New, unusual, curious, surprising

KEY: God is speaking to you here!

- e. Grab a notebook: (1) Write out the verse (2) Write out why it struck you (3) Do "SPACEPETS"

SPACEPETS: Is there a...

- Sin to confess?
- Promise to claim?
- Attitude to change?
- Command to obey?
- Example to follow?
- Prayer to pray?
- Error to avoid?
- Truth to believe?
- Something to thank God for?

How To Pray

- a. Start with the right attitude: *"Father, this is not a task for me to complete. This is a relationship with you that I want to build. That's why I'm talking to you. And I know that you love me with a love that is overwhelming, never ending and reckless. Show me your unfailing love."*
- b. Confess: *"Father, I know there are things I've done that have hurt you. These things block the fullness of the relationship you want to have with me. I want no walls between you and me."*
- c. Re-prioritize: *"I'm not praying to get something from you today. I'm praying to get you. You are the treasure of this world and I need you."*
- d. Heart section: *What am I feeling? What stories am I telling myself that create those feelings? Am I truly grateful? Do I love my enemies?*
- e. Promises
- f. People far from God
- g. Guidance: *Father, I don't know what decision to make here. Please show me"*
- h. My requests: Add a date when you started asking

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And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man *speaketh unto his friend*. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.— Exodus 33:11

John 15:15 I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my **friends**, since I have told you everything the Father told me.
"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like" (James 1:22-24)

2 Corinthians 10:5

We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from **knowing** God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.

And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called *the Friend of God*.—James 2:23

He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the *friend of the bridegroom*, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.— John 3:29

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his *friends*. **Ye are my friends**, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but **I have called you friends**; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.—John 15:13-15

The Apostle Paul counted "everything as loss compared to the possession of the priceless privilege—the overwhelming preciousness, the surpassing worth and supreme advantage—of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (Phil. 3:8, Amplified). Th

Matthew 15:8-9^L; Mark 7:6-7^L

This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.

Mark 12:38-40^L (also see Luke 20:45-47^L)

Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.

Philippians 3:19

- **New International Version**

Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their **mind** is **set** on earthly things.

Matthew 6: "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:
"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will
also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”