

I'm not a bot





It's a common concern among people who've struggled with their faith or feel distant from God due to various reasons. However, a close relationship with God is crucial in our Christian lives, regardless of past experiences or doubts about His existence. These insecurities can hinder us from experiencing intimate fellowship with Him, creating an obstacle that makes it challenging to move forward. Regardless of the reasons behind your reservations, it's essential to remember that a personal and close relationship with God is possible for everyone. After reading this blog, you'll understand why having an intimate connection with Him is vital and what benefits come from doing so. According to Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT), "Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ." Before creating the world, God desired a relationship with us. This is crucial to remember because He was willing to send His son, Jesus Christ, to the cross to receive us into His family, demonstrating His immense love for us. To illustrate this point, let's use an analogy involving parenting. Imagine there's an indigenous tribe in Brazil that's isolated from the outside world. To reach them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, one might consider sacrificing their own child on the cross as a way to initiate contact and establish a relationship. While this idea may seem extreme or even absurd, it highlights God's willingness to go to great lengths to have an intimate connection with us. God desires a consistent and constant relationship with each of us, not just on special occasions like Easter or Christmas but every day, all year long. His love for us is immeasurable and unmatched, and He wants to be with us always, guiding us through life's challenges and struggles. To experience salvation through Jesus Christ means having an eternal relationship with Him, filled with His love and presence for all eternity. Ephesians 3:16-19 (NLT) expresses this desire, praying that believers will be empowered by God's Spirit to deepen their understanding of His love. Intimacy with God is essential, akin to the intimacy in a marriage. Without it, there's an arranged relationship where one party has no say in the union. The writer longs for a personal connection with the Lord, involving Him in every aspect of life, and becoming more fulfilled in Him. This prayer from Apostle Paul resonates as a description of spiritual intimacy. As believers develop this connection, they'll be empowered by inner strength through the Holy Spirit, enabling them to live daily lives and serve God's Kingdom. The scripture emphasizes that this intimacy must be actively cultivated, like cultivating roots in God's love, which will keep one strong. The writer shares their personal experience of struggling with intimacy, but also acknowledges those who naturally possess it. The verse "Keep you strong" highlights the importance of allowing these roots to grow deep in God's love, much like an oak tree's extensive root system makes it resilient against life's challenges. For instance, after severe weather events, I usually drive around to assess the damage. I recall seeing massive trees lying on their sides, like dominoes knocked over by strong winds. Many of those trees were weakened due to internal decay. Similarly, our spiritual lives can suffer when we don't nurture a deep connection with God; the devil can exploit our weaknesses and push us off balance. I've had instances where I needed divine understanding to grasp Scripture's significance, such as comprehending the magnitude of God's love. Apostle Paul prayed for the people of Ephesus to gain insight into this love, and we can do the same by seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance. As you begin to comprehend God's love, you'll discover new opportunities that were previously closed off. You may also start to see how approachable and conversational God is. I frequently share my morning conversations with Him about life's ups and downs; His love is so refreshing. Verse 19 says, "May you experience the love of Christ." In a similar vein, being married to someone you deeply love can be incredible. You know they care for you and feel that love daily. It never gets old - even after many years. The same applies when experiencing God's love; it only grows more profound over time. To experience Christ's love means embracing His willingness to sacrifice Himself for us, which leads to an abundant life (John 10:10). As you draw closer to Him, you'll come to know Him better and have the Holy Spirit guide you daily. The benefits are limitless! Having a deep connection with God is crucial due to various reasons. Despite past negative experiences or doubts, it's reassuring to know that a personal relationship with God is achievable. For us to experience the love of Christ and live a fulfilling life, we must first understand His character. This knowledge allows us to cultivate intimacy with God, gaining strength, guidance, and access to His limitless resources. By embracing the benefits of this relationship, we can pursue a deeper connection with Him daily. God longs for intimate fellowship with His people, as He created us to have a relationship with Him. In Genesis, it is written that He walked and talked with Adam and Eve, demonstrating His desire for closeness with His creation. Throughout the Bible, we see examples of individuals who sought intimacy with God, like King David, who yearned to dwell in God's presence. Jesus Himself modeled intimacy with the Father during His time on earth, often withdrawing to pray and commune with God. He showed us the importance of dedicating time and space for a personal connection with Him. Intimacy with God requires vulnerability, transparency, and a willingness to surrender our hearts and lives to Him. God invites us to draw near to Him, promising that He will draw near to us (James 4:8). He promises to reveal Himself to those who seek Him with all their hearts (Jeremiah 29:13). Intimacy with God brings transformation, as we are changed by His love, grace, and truth. It is in His presence that we find true fulfillment, joy, and purpose. However, several factors can hinder intimacy with God. Sin separates us from Him, creating a barrier between us and our Creator (Isaiah 59:2). Confessing our sins and seeking forgiveness are essential to restoring our intimacy with God. Distractions and busyness can also get in the way, as we become consumed with worldly pursuits and neglect our spiritual lives. Jesus reminds us that what is truly needed is to prioritize spending time with God (Luke 10:41-42). We must make room for Him in our daily lives and seek forgiveness when necessary. Unforgiveness, like sin, can also hinder our intimacy with God, making it essential to cultivate a heart of forgiveness towards others. Bitterness can block our closeness with God, just like it damages relationships between people. As Jesus teaches in Matthew 6:14-15, forgiving others makes us eligible for forgiveness from our heavenly Father. Therefore, letting go of bitterness is essential for experiencing real intimacy with God. A lack of surrender also hinders our connection with God. When we hold onto control and don't fully submit to Him, we limit the depth of our relationship with Him. Jesus instructs us in Luke 9:23 to deny ourselves daily and follow Him, which means surrendering to His will. Factors like sin, lack of faith, distractions, unforgiveness, and not surrendering can all block intimacy with God. It's crucial for us to recognize and deal with these obstacles to develop a deep relationship with our Heavenly Father. Shawn Paul, an author and missionary, shares his passion for living for Jesus Christ through his blog. He emphasizes the importance of intimacy with God in leading a fulfilling life filled with happiness and joy. According to Shawn, putting false idols in place of God leads to pain and suffering. Here are 7 signs of true intimacy with God: 1. Hating sin but having compassion for those who do. 2. Spending time in prayer, worship, and studying the Bible. 3. Having a calm and peaceful mind and spirit. 4. Allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us towards righteousness. 5. Being willing to adjust our path when needed. 6. Not being superior to others and being humble. 7. Allowing God to remove self-hate, pride, pain, and anything else that blocks intimacy. Being close to God is essential for hearing His voice clearly, understanding His Word deeply, and gaining insights into life's mysteries. As Jeremiah 33:3 says, calling out to Him reveals hidden truths and great understandings, enriching our lives and changing them for the better. 1. Experience Divine Revelation - Jeremiah 33:3 states that God will reveal great and hidden truths to those who seek Him. 2. Discover Enduring Peace Philippians 4:6-7 teaches us to share our worries with God through prayer, unlocking a deep and abiding peace that surpasses human understanding. 3. Find Liberation Through Intimacy Matthew 11:28-30 assures us that when we come to God, weary and burdened, He offers rest for our souls and invites us to take on His gentle yoke, freeing us from the weight of our troubles. 4. Acquire Divine Wisdom James 1:5 advises that when we lack wisdom, we can turn to God, who generously imparts His wisdom without reproach, sharpening our focus and freeing our minds from conformity to worldly norms. 5. Experience Unshakeable Connection John 15:10-11 states that abiding in God's love fills us with joy, bringing completeness and fulfillment to our life, and Galatians 5:22-23 highlights the abundant spiritual fruits that manifest in our lives as evidence of our union with God. As I remain in my Father's commands and His love, my joy is complete when you experience it too. But what does this fruit-filled life look like? It starts with loving others without condition, just as God loves us, forgiving those who hurt us and praying for those who mistreat us. We're empowered to show lasting love and kindness, fulfilling God's command and receiving His blessings. As we draw closer to God, we gain a deeper understanding of His character: truthful, faithful, and unwavering in His promises. This deepened understanding strengthens our faith and gives us confidence as we navigate life's uncertainties. We also expect divine revelations, gaining clarity on how to apply biblical truths to our lives. The Holy Spirit guides us into all understanding, speaking only what He hears and revealing what is yet to come. Embracing these divine insights enriches our spiritual journey. In the midst of difficulties, we learn to lean on God for guidance and strength. Our faith deepens as we wait on Him to provide for our needs. God promises to meet our needs and grant us good gifts, guiding us through life's challenges and providing for us in remarkable ways. Lastly, we experience God's comfort in times of pain, finding solace in His unconditional love. This comfort comes through various means: the Scriptures, loved ones, unexpected moments, or even nature's gentle touch. As you delve deeper into the love of His divine presence, you'll come to understand that it transcends any earthly comfort. The scriptures in 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 highlight God's nature as the Father of compassion who consoles us in times of need and enables us to share this same solace with others. With each passing day, God's reassuring love will give you the strength and peace needed to navigate life's challenges, knowing that He understands your struggles intimately. This deep sense of care is a testament to His faithfulness, as seen in 1 Corinthians 10:13, which reminds us that every trial presents an opportunity to deepen our trust in His provision. God's love for us is unwavering, like a mother bear fiercely protecting her cubs. He shields us from harm and watches over us with great care, just as illustrated in Hosea 13:8. In times of trouble, God's protective hand guides us safely, shielding us from harm and providing comfort and security. As we rest in His loving embrace, we find solace in Psalm 91:4, which likens it to finding safety under the wings of a bird, secure in His faithfulness. With each passing day, God's favor can lift us to places beyond our own reach when we place our trust in Him, just as seen in James 4:10. Through your connection with God, you'll tap into a wellspring of supernatural strength, enabling you to navigate life with integrity and righteousness. Just as Isaiah 40:31 assures, those who rely on the Lord will find their strength renewed, empowering them to soar above life's challenges without succumbing to weariness or despair.

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