



CHRIST COMMISSION FELLOWSHIP

LOS ANGELES

March 18, 2012

*Pursuing Intimacy With God by Seeking His Presence*

**WORSHIP**

Suggested Songs: Heart of Worship by Hillsongs / Amazed by Eoghan Heaslip/  
Jesus, Lover of My Soul (It's All About You) by Shelley Nirider

**WELCOME**

Icebreaker: Life Mapping. Symbolize in a pie chart what are the priorities in your life.  
What activities use up most of your time and energy?

**WORD**

<sup>4</sup> *One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, To behold the <sup>[a]</sup> beauty of the LORD And to <sup>[b]</sup> meditate in His temple. Psalm 27:4*

The Great Commission encourages us to "Go and Make Disciples of all Nations." But in our struggle to fulfill our role as disciple makers we have neglected to cultivate our inner life.

But what exactly is Inner Life?

Five Critical Dimensions to the Inner Life.

**1. Inner Compulsions**

a. **Dark Compulsions.** These are our sinful inclinations, our carnal inclinations

b. **Light Compulsions.** This is a motivation that comes from God, a desire for a higher and nobler things.

2. **Inner Conscience.** This is in constant struggle with our Compulsions and can only be made pure through the redemption given

3. **Inner Convictions.** It is in the application of the truth we learn that our life is changed.

4. **Inner Compass.** We must have an understanding of who God is, an understanding of the principles by which He deals with us. Often our failure in our walk with discipleship is because we have a wrong view of God.

5. **Inner Composure.** We are rested, rooted and anchored in God because we understand the secret and the power of being in His presence.

All five dimensions must be impacted by the Word and Power of God, and this can only be done if we develop *Intimacy with God*.

Our intimacy with God is a redemptive journey. It is that redemption that draws us to a deeper sense of the presence

of God. It is not about our efforts but it is about the nature of God.

There are 4 myths about intimacy:

1. Intimacy is the key to Blessing.
2. Intimacy is a Prize.
3. Intimacy is Optional.
4. Everyone experiences it the same way.

We have to understand that Intimacy with God is not a key to being blessed or is not something we deserve. Intimacy with God in itself is the blessing and we can only enjoy this intimacy if God Himself invites us to be intimate with Him. It is not a prize for good behavior rather it is an act of love of our Father to invite us into His presence. But we cannot fully feel God's presence in our life if we only allow Him to take a small part of our life, God has to be in every part of our life, of our being in order for us to experience being radically revived and transformed. He has to be the Lord of all the areas of our life. How we experience His presence in our life will be unique for each person but the most important thing is not how we experience God's presence but rather how our hearts respond to His presence.

Lastly, there are Four Truths about Intimacy with God that we should understand:

1. God takes delight in intimacy with us and He invites us to it.
2. It is a God-given birthright for all humanity.
3. It takes Trust, not just time.
4. Intimacy with God results in redemptive acts of love

Because our God is a god of grace and love, He has given us the grandest and most profound invitation – to be intimate with Him, to be a part of His life, His power, His glory, His

promises, His victory, His power and His presence. When we tap into this then we realize that it is not about our strength and abilities but rather it is about His power and His presence in our lives. It is His desire for all of us to enjoy this intimacy with Him. . . to have Him be a part of our lives. . . because this is what He designed us for. This is why He created us. But Intimacy with God does not only require time from us, more than the time we can spend with Him, God asks us to Trust Him. Entrust to Him every aspect of our life, because He wants to be a part of our lives --- not just in the big things, but in the little things as well. When we have learned to entrust our lives to God, He will use us in His work of redemption. . . after all we are being blessed so that we can be a blessing to others.

Understanding David's heart in Psalm 27:4 gives us a concrete idea on how we can practice Intimacy with God in the reality of life. David was undergoing persecution and was fearful about his life but because he knew God and understood His

heart, David was able to find refuge. Verse 4 shows us 4 marks of Intimacy with God --- We must have:

1. One defining purpose
2. One defining pursuit
3. One defining preoccupation
4. One defining passion

Amidst the confusion and the turmoil of our everyday life, we must ask ourselves where does our heart lie? Do we like David understand that it is by abiding with the Lord that we establish a relationship with Him? God is not interested in what we can do for Him, but in what we become as we are trying to do things for Him. How we are being transformed by our understanding of who He is and what He created us for. It is through Intimacy with God, His constant presence in every aspect of our lives that we can overcome these trials. His presence in our lives does not guarantee the absence of problems, rather it is in the understanding of His power and His love that we can find peace.

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What is my defining purpose?
2. What is my defining pursuit?
3. What is my preoccupation? What is at the center of my life?
4. What am I most passionate about?

#### **WORKS**

Take a look at the pie chart you made and answer the following questions:

1. What am I seeking for? What do I seek for other than God?
2. Where is God in my life today?
3. Am I ready to be in the presence of God?

If you are ready to make a commitment to pursue intimacy with God --- in the middle of the circle, write in big, bold letters GOD.

Spend time in prayer and meditation to seek God and to repent to receive God's empowering grace for sanctification. Ask your Dgroup and your accountability partner to pray with you and to keep you accountable over the area/s you need to repent from and improve on to pursue an intimate relationship with God.