



Intimacy with God in the age of Facebook

**WORSHIP:** Till I see you by Hillsong/ I surrender by Jesus Culture/ Change this heart by Sidewalk Prophets

**WELCOME:**

Do I have a facebook account? How many hours do I spend on facebook? How has my relationships with my friend and family been affected by facebook?

**WORD:**

Since the introduction of Facebook in 2004, it has changed the face of social networking and relationships. We are now being conditioned to think that clicking on the "like" button is sufficient to maintain an intimate relationship with someone. So what does intimacy really mean?

Intimacy is defined as intrinsic, essential, marked by very close association, belonging to or characterizing one's deepest nature, marked by a warm friendship developing though long association.

- It is not a method or a program. It is a lifestyle, a change of mind.

**I Need Time In Meditation Acknowledging Christ Y**

**I**

- this pertains to "you".
- we should understand that it is not about the messages, or the retreats; it is not about the church service
- Intimacy depends on you. Our relationship with God is dependent on Me, not on anyone else.
- It is a conscious decision.

*Joshua 24:15*

**Need**

- it is not an option
- Psalm 27:4*

- In *Luke 10:41-42*, Jesus reminds us that we worry about so much but only one thing is important and Mary made the right choice.

**Time**

- this is the greatest and the hardest sacrifice.
- we cannot make more time, so we have to prioritize what we do with our time.

- Because we often equate productivity with the amount of work/ tasks we can do with our time, we have forgotten that often times just basking in the beauty and greatness of God is not a waste of time

*Matthew 6: 31-34*

**In**

- being and not just doing
- "in" here is used to mean that we should be constantly in that place/position
- In *James 2:18-19*, we are reminded that our lives should be a reflection of what we believe in, it should be a reflection of who we are.

**Meditation**

- *Psalm 63: 6-8*

- "how to" books teach us how to maneuver around intimacy rather than doing this we should spend time understanding who God is, pondering on His greatness, His mercy and His love

- In *Genesis 24:63*, we see Isaac communing with God in prayer. It does not matter what time of the day we pray, as long as we spend it in an intimate encounter with our Lord.

## Acknowledging

- defined as to recognize the rights, authority or status of.

- when we acknowledge God's authority--- we should obey, we should follow through

with what God wants to do in our life

*Psalm 140:13*

*John 15:10*

- When we dwell in the presence of God, we do what God wants us to do.

## Christ

- we do not meditate on ministry, on numbers or on finances. . . we meditate on Christ.
- We aim for a deeper relationship not just become surface church go-ers
- In *Galatians 3:1-3*, we are reminded that we should not only acknowledge God in our intellect but more importantly have an understanding of what God is and who He is in our lives.
- When there is no real conversion, the strain of trying to be a Christian will grow harder and harder. It is only by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit that real transformation happens.

### I Need Time In Meditation Acknowledging Christ Y ?

**Because without intimacy, I am developing a religion.**

- A belief system that we can maneuver through.
- *Luke 11:39-40*
- *Matthew 23:26*

Discussion:

1. Is your walk with the Lord best described as "same old thing" or "constantly changing"?
2. In an era of "liking" status, am I confining myself to a lukewarm relationship with God or have I decided to pursue intimacy with God?
3. Do I always feel God's presence in my life? Yes or no. How does this makes me feel?
4. During the times that I do not feel close to God, what do I usually do about it?

### WORKS:

"But someone <sup>[a]</sup> may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works." *James 2:18*

1. Do I set aside time to spend with God? How much time do I want to spend with God?
2. Think about your relationship with God now. Are you in a relationship or in a religion? Do people know you belong to God by the life you lead?

Spend time in prayer and ask God to enlighten you in the areas of your relationship with Him that you have to work on. Write this down in your journal and make a specific commitment on how to improve in these areas. Ask your dgroup and accountability partner to pray with you as you take steps in order to become more intimately entwined in the presence of the Father.