

The Power of God's Promises "Intimacy with God"

INTRODUCTION

We were created to have an intimate relationship with the Lord, a close affectionate relationship where we have detailed knowledge and a deep understanding of the Lord and we trust Him with our souls. However, the sin in our lives creates a separation between us and the Lord (Isaiah 59:2) that causes our relationship to be broken. The Lord longs to bring us close to Him and restore what was lost when sin entered the world. Because of His great love He has provided a way for this to occur through the blood of Jesus. Our part in this restoration is to seek Him and allow His word and Spirit to lead us away from sin and into intimacy with our Lord.

STUDY QUESTIONS (45 MIN)

1. Seek to Know Who God Is

Read: Jeremiah 9:23-24, 24:7, 29:11-14

1. What do these verses say about the importance of seeking the Lord? What does the Lord promise to us when we do seek him?

Read: Hebrews 4:16, 10:22

2. From these verses how are we to approach the Lord? What are we promised when we draw near to God?

2. Seek to Know How God Gives

Read: James 1:16-18, Ephesians 2:1-10

3. James tells us every perfect gift comes from the Lord. What is the perfect gift that the Lord gives us according to Ephesians 2:8? Why does He give this gift? (vs.4)

Read: Galatians 6:7-10, 2 Peter 1:3-8

4. What does Paul warn us about in Galatians 6:7-8? What encouragement does he also give us? What promises are given in 2 Peter 1:3-8? Why are we given these promises? (vs.4)

Read: Joshua 24:14-15, Psalm 51: 1-2, 10

4. Joshua threw down a challenge to the Israelites to choose whom they would serve; weather their old gods from their former way of life or the Lord. Have you made a conscience decision to serve the Lord? If you have, do you still find it difficult to let go of sin?

5. Psalm 51 is a powerful prayer of repentance. Read it again now out loud as a prayer for each other.

3. Seek to Know What God Wants

Read: Isaiah 30:18, 1:18, 45:3, Matthew 11:28-29

6. Make a list from these verses of all the things the Lord wants to give or do for you. Keep this list and put it in a prominent place to remind you of His great love!

WRAP-UP

Our Lord longs to have a close, personal, intimate relationship with each of us. He wants to cleanse us from our sin and free us to be pure and holy new creations in Christ. This week pursue the Lord with your whole heart and taste and see that the Lord is good. His mercies endure forever!

Memory Verse: Isaiah 30:18 (NIV) "The Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!"

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life:

Pray for your group members needs (use other side also):

Challenge: This week practice turning your thoughts toward the Lord more often than you normally do.