

Seeking Jesus Everyday!

Introduction: Jesus Christ has done everything possible to open the way for us to know, love, and obey Him. Now, we determine the quality of our relationship with God. (James 4:8) You can reciprocate Christ's white-hot love for you. Don't settle for anything less than total union with Christ! This occurs by cultivating a "Pray, Hear, Obey" lifestyle with Jesus every day.

No one can become like Christ, or follow Him as a true disciple outside of connecting deeply with the Body of Christ. Christ and Christ's Body are inseparable. It takes both Christ and Christ's Body to produce real disciples of Christ. (Matt. 28:18-20; Col. 1:28) By connecting to the Body of Christ, it means that you are a vibrant and vital member of a bona fide spiritual family, a local church, led by Biblical elders. Your local church needs to be a vital part of a larger family of churches led by apostles and prophets. In your church family, you experience a unity of mind, heart, and lifestyle that reveals Jesus to a lost and dying world. (Acts 4:32-35)

There are several levels of relationships necessary to develop and sustain a white-hot fiery love with Jesus: 1. Just you and Jesus (Mk. 1:35), 2. Two's & Three's (DNA Groups; Matt. 18:19-20; Ecc.4:12), 3. 7-15 in small spiritual family-platoons (Missional Kingdom Family; Acts 6:42), 4. Local congregation led by Biblical elders, 5. Trans-local church-planting spiritual family-of-families (Apostolic Tribes; Eph. 4:11-13) led by apostles and prophets (there is no such thing as an isolated independent local church in the Bible that is not connected trans-locally to a larger spiritual family).

Plan & Strategy: If you really want something or someone, you develop a plan and strategy to get what you want. How strong is your "want", your desire for the Person of Jesus? Do you hunger and thirst for Him? (Matt. 5:6) You will get the "pearl" and the "treasure", Jesus Christ, if you sell all to get Him. Matt. 13:44-46

Step One: Develop a daily "Secret Place" a "Prayer Altar" with Jesus. Find a place, set a time, and show up! When you go into your "secret place" and close the door, Jesus is there with you!

Step Two: Acknowledge Jesus' Presence whether or not you feel or perceive Him. Focus on the Person of Jesus Christ. Become still before God and open your heart to Him. Begin to thank Jesus for everything good. Praise and worship Him. Tell Him of your love. Adore Jesus!

Step Three: Be honest. Don't hide. Confess sin. We do not have to be "good" in order to get God. We get God and He helps us become "good". Always run to Jesus even when you have sinned.

Step Four: Ask Father, through Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit, to speak to your mind and heart through His Word and by His Spirit.

Step Five: Read the assigned passage of scripture in the Bible. We suggest reading through the One Year Bible. It includes an Old Testament passage, New Testament Passage, Psalm, Proverb. Do a little research: a. look up the meaning of the words you don't understand, b. read the comments in the study Bible or commentary, c. discover the historical context of the passage. Find out what the author meant to say, the meaning of the passage.

Step Six: Pray (See below)

Step Seven: Hear (See below)

Step Eight: Obey (See below)

Pray: "Prayer" is a word Christians use to describe the activity of intimate communication between God and His "sons".

Step One: Listen for God's voice in your spirit (heart). Mix this time of listening with thanksgiving, praise and adoration.

Step Two: Ask God for the things he tells you to ask Him. (Lk. 11:1-13, 18:1-8; James 4:2-3; Matt. 7:7-11, 21:22)

Step Three: Believe and declare. Thank God for His answers.

Hear: All “sons of God” can hear their Father’s voice. We are created and sustained by the Word of God – His voice. (Matt. 4:4; Jn. 10:3) Hearing God’s voice involves several levels of comprehension and revelation. Ultimately, we want to have intimate experiential knowledge of God’s Mind, Heart, Emotions, Ways, Will, Desires, and Passions.

Level One – Intellectual comprehension of objective Truth as revealed in the Bible. We know the Bible writer’s intended meaning of the passages within the historical, cultural, and social context in which he wrote. Ask the questions: “What is God saying in His Word?” “What does God mean?” “What does God’s Word mean to me?” “How does God want me to apply His Word in my life?”

Level Two – You agree with the objective Truth written in the Bible enough to repent and come into compliance with God’s Truth. Prov. 23:7 As we think, so we become.

Level Three – You have a love encounter the Person who BOTH wrote the Bible and who is described in every sentence, Jesus Christ. (Jn. 5:39-40)

Level Four – Information explodes into revelation! You actually “see” with the eyes of your heart. You “hear” in your spirit from the Holy Spirit. You “know” in your “knower”. You become one with the Person who IS the Word. (Eph. 1:17-18)

A. Gazing on Christ. (Heb. 12:2)

B. Sanctified imagination. Utilize that part of your spirit called the “imagination”. Your ability to see pictures and envision kingdom reality is a powerful way to access Jesus and the heavenly realm. See articles: “Is Your Imagination Starved?” by Oswald Chambers and “Jesus and Visualization” by Bob Whitaker

C. Dreams, visions, prophetic words, words of knowledge, intuitive “knowing” are all capabilities your spirit has to hear God’s voice. There are three stages of administering words from God: 1.) revelation, 2.) interpretation, 3.) application. All are submitted to the Word of God, the people of God, the Spirit of God (which includes fruit, wisdom, power). The ultimate purpose for wisdom and revelation is to facilitate our ability to glorify and love God, love others, and advance Christ’s kingdom on earth. Fruit (both the fruit of the Spirit and positive results) is the bottom line. (Jn. 3:14; Nu. 21:9; Acts 2:17-21; Lk. 6:45; Ps 19:14; Eph. 1:17-18; Mk. 11:24) Jesus said: Why reason (imagine-Gk=dialogizomai) among yourselves?” (Matthew 16:8)

And the Lord said: Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them which they have imagined Hebrew=zaman: “To plan, devise, plot, purpose, think”) to do.” (Genesis 11:6)

And whatsoever things you desire, when you pray believe you receive and you shall have them. (Matt. 21:22)

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind (“imagination”) is stayed on Thee.” Is. 29:7 (This is the same Hebrew word as David used of “imagination” in the building of the temple in 1 Chron. 29:18)

Every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. And having in readiness to avenge all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled?” (2 Cor. 10:3-6)

Level Five – You become the Word and you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth the Word which is Life-giving. (Heb. 4:12; Ps 33:6)

Journal: Write down what God is saying to you.

Obey: Faith is manifested in obedience. Obedience is doing exactly what God asks: quickly, completely, and cheerfully. “We received grace and apostleship to call people from among all Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.” Ro. 1:5 A disciple of Christ is marked by their obedience to Christ. Obeying Christ and teaching others to do the same is our great commission. (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk.3:35)

There are two general categories in God’s Word: Covenant Love Relationships & the Kingdom of God. There will be two general areas of obedience: relationships and responsibilities. What is God asking you to do in the area of your relationships? What responsibilities does God want you to fulfill that will advance His kingdom on earth?