

God & You: A Personal Relationship 3.20/21.2010

Introduction

God wants to reveal himself to you personally and desires to have an intimate relationship with you. His relationship is always available and He is always inviting us to join Him. God is close to us, but sometimes we think and live as though He is far away. God can feel distant, but He is always at work around us and He is always seeking an intimately personal relationship with you.

Discussion

Do you know someone who has an intimate relationship with God? What encourages you about this person? How can you tell their life with God is personal?

Separate into two groups and have one group read Mark 5:21-34 and the other read Acts 9:1-10. Discuss these questions in your separate groups:

What would it have been like to observe this event from a distance? What do you think this encounter with God was like for the woman (Mark 5) or Paul (Acts 9)? What did they see and feel? When both groups have finished, discuss how your answers are similar and different.

Can you think of a time when God felt intensely personal? What was it like and what did you learn?

Think About It

Oswald Chambers says that the person "who is intimate with Jesus will never leave impressions of himself, but only the impression that Jesus is having unhindered way, because the last abyss of his nature has been satisfied by Jesus."

What "abyss" or area in your life needs to be satisfied by an intimate relationship with Jesus? What steps can you take to encounter God in these places?

Do Something

Read Psalm 139 out loud and choose a phrase or verse to memorize from this passage. Begin your prayers with this phrase and remember God desires to speak with you personally.

When do you feel closest to God? Make time to do the things that draw you near to Him.

If God feels distant, talk about this with a trusted friend or spouse. Take 15 minutes to write about your experience, and then determine what your next step will be.