



## 1.3

### Each member is mature in the discipline of regularly spending time with the King.

Everything we do that is worth doing and everything that we think that is worth thinking starts with hearing from God. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and understanding. If we are to understand anything about who we are and why we are here, it starts with what God communicates to us about Himself and therefore about ourselves and our relationships with others. Even our Lord Jesus Christ exemplified this for us.

**Micah 7:7-8** But as for me, I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. (8) Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to me.

**Matthew 14:22-23** Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. (23) And after he had dismissed the crowds, **he went up on the mountain by himself to pray...**

**Luke 5:15-16** But now even more the report about him [Jesus] went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. (16) **But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.**

**John 10:2-5** But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. (3) To him the gatekeeper opens. **The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. (4) When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. (5) A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.**

**Q. What does spending time with the King mean? Write a reflection of what that looks like for you.**

**James 4:8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

*TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD, I NEED TO BE OPEN AND READY TO BE OBEDIENT TO HIS WILL. I NEED TO BE NEAR IN ORDER TO HEAR. IF I HAVE A GRUDGING ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD'S COMMANDMENTS, I WILL KEEP MYSELF AT A DISTANCE. "HE WHO HAS AN EAR TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR." THIS EXHORTATION IS REPEATED MANY TIMES IN [THE GOSPELS AND IN] THE BOOK OF REVELATION. IF I HEAR, I RECEIVE NOURISHMENT FOR MY SPIRIT FROM GOD, AND IN THAT WAY, I CAN ALSO BE OF HELP TO THE OTHERS AROUND ME. THIS IS REALLY A LIFE THAT IS PLEASING FOR GOD.*

*-DAVID OWENS, ACTIVECHRISTIANITY*

At times we can think of spending time with God in a very narrow way. We think of folding our hands in prayer and reading the Bible. While these are certainly important ways of spending time with God, they are just a beginning, not the end. There are additional ways He invites us to engage with Him that we can and should explore, but His Word is the best place to start.

Let God's Word inform and guide your prayers. Look at His promises and pray for Him to work them into your conscious life. Chapters like Psalms 104 and 139 are great places to start. Becoming aware of His presence takes time. Take the time.

There are other ways He will connect with you as well. Things like prayer walks, prayer runs, prayer closets (quiet spaces we intentionally find and return to), and of course, music.

Music can bring us into the presence of God. It has been said the most often used command from God to his people was to "sing to the Lord." David sang praises to God and about God often. Paul calls us to sing hymns and spiritual songs. Perhaps music can be incorporated into your time with Him in a way that draws you close.

Journaling can often draw out of us what is really going on within our hearts and minds. Writing down thoughts inspired by scripture and meditating on it often communicates to us the things that God is impressing on us; things He wants us to pay attention to. It also gives us a chance to go back and review what He has been communicating to us over time.

## DISCOVER

Overall, let discovery be part of the process. You are talking with the Creator of all things. You get to discover God and His ways by spending time with Him and His Word. Remain curious. He wants you to know Him.

**Q. In the past, what has motivated you to “draw near to God” in a special way?**

**Q. What did you discover?**

### Spending Time with the King – Three Things to Get You Started

- 1. Commit:** A pattern starts with practice, which starts with a commitment. Make a commitment before God to spend regular time with Him. He wants to help you do this. Prayerfully write your commitment here:
  
- 2. Create a Rhythm:** How can you schedule time with God that will create an ongoing rhythm for you?
  
- 3. Remember:** Find ways to remember what you and God are talking about. Write your ideas here:

## CONCLUSION

God is requesting the presence of His people through prayer. He wants to hear from you, and He wants to guide you. He will guide you through His Word and through the leading of the Holy Spirit, but it requires our time.

**Commit** to spending time with Him.

**Create a rhythm** of that time, make it a routine.

**Remember** what you are reading and being convicted of.

## LEADERSHIP CONNECTION QUESTION

**Q. How could a regular rhythm of being in God's presence impact your business leadership—who are you as a leader, and what do you do as a leader? How could your team members benefit from this?**

## RESOURCES FOR NEXT STEPS

- Bible Reading  
[Matthew 6:5-18](#)
- Read  
Sanctuary of the Soul by Richard Foster  
<https://www.amazon.com/Sanctuary-Soul-Journey-Meditative-Prayer/dp/0830835555>
- RightNow Media @WorkStudy  
The Lord's Prayer: The Pattern  
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/773221>
- Prayer Retreat  
Go away for an extended time of prayer monthly, quarterly, or annually.