

Alb01 – Get Alone With God – Psalm 62:1-2

After 38 years of Following Jesus myself
& almost 30 years of Helping other people follow Jesus

There is ONE THING that I've seen 100% EFFECTIVE
in Transforming a Christian's Life

ONE THING that is 100% Guaranteed
to Transform a Christian's Life

& that ONE THING – is Developing a Genuine, Fully Committed,
Daily Interaction with God - In His Word

But I'm talking about something MUCH DEEPER
than the casual reading of scripture,
or skimming thru a ready-made Devotion

Whenever I've seen someone Develop the HABIT
of truly Getting ALONE WITH GOD,
& Learning how to truly Meet God - in His Word . . .

Being GUIDED by the Holy Spirit
Genuinely APPLYING God's Word
& Genuinely RESPONDING to God – in their ACTIONS

(in my experience) When that Becomes Routine in a Person's Life
that person will be Truly & Radically Transformed
100% of the time

It is the only thing I've seen 100% Effective
Every single time I've seen someone DO this – routinely, over time
with a Genuine Desire to TRULY MEET GOD

Let's Pray & I'll show you HOW we do this

Our SALVATION is BY FAITH Alone

& that “Salvation by Faith Alone” is something we often associate
with a “Prayer of Faith” – or “Salvation Prayer”

& IF that Prayer of Faith is REAL – then that Salvation is REAL

But I really need you to HEAR THIS

From GEN to REV – the Bible is clear

that “Moment of Salvation” is the BEGINNING
of a “Growing, Real, Relationship” - with a “Real, Living God”

It's the BEGINNING of a Genuine Relationship

that goes from that Moment of SALVATION
& LASTS into ETERNITY

& it is WITHIN that Ongoing Real, Living Relationship with God
That the transformation of our life takes place

& it is WITHIN that Relationship that God

gets a HOLD of us
& MOLDS us, & SHAPES us,
& REFINES us, & TRANSFORMS us

The problem is – Developing & Maintaining
that Ongoing, Real Relationship with God

is PRECISELY what MOST CHRISTIANS – FAIL TO DO

The Very PLACE - God has Designed
to Meet Us & Transform Us

Is the Very PLACE – so many of us - have So Much Difficulty

So - For the Past 8 Years

We've been using the Daily Devotion Journal

to Help people get 'ALONE WITH GOD' - & MEET GOD -
in a Life Changing Way – On a regular basis

Getting ALONE WITH GOD

& Knowing what to DO THERE

Is where your Relationship with the Lord GROWS - & THRIVES

That's NOT to say that Joining with other believers
in Discipleship & Fellowship is not important – IT IS

& we USE the DDJ – in Discipling Relationships
& it works great there

But God designed you FIRST
to be in a PERSONAL Relationship with Him

& for that Relationship to BE - what it was Designed to Be
You & I need - to Regularly Spend Time – ALONE WITH GOD

You were GIVEN a copy of our DDJ as you walked in today
If not – Please get One on the Way out

& you can download the DDJ at calvarynuevo.org/resources

The DDJ – is NOT some kind of “Secret Formula”

Altho sometimes it feels like it is - when God
CLEARLY speaks to you through this process

But it's simply a GUIDE to walk you thru a Meaningful,
& Transforming time with The Lord – On a ROUTINE Basis

There are FOUR steps to the DDJ

& **EACH** of those **FOUR Steps** – Are **INTERACTING with God**
IN His **WORD** & **ACCORDING** to His **WORD**

& that is critical for you to hear

ALL that **we do** – in **our Relationship** with **Jesus Christ** –
ALL of it – is **directed by,** & **according to** - His **Word**

So **the DDJ** is simply **GUIDING you** thru a **powerful interaction**
with God - **in** His **Word**

So – In **this Series** we're **going** to **Develop**
each of these '**FOUR STEPS**' - **One at a time**

& **to start** the **series** - in **THIS Msg**

We're going to **talk** about the **ENVIRONMENT**
that **you & I** – **MUST CREATE** →

where we can **Focus on The Lord**
& **Hear from The Lord** – in this '**Personal Relationship**' Time

It all **starts** - **With** us Getting **ALONE WITH GOD**

So - **Let me CLEARLY DEFINE**
THE REASON for us getting - **ALONE WITH GOD**

The **REASON** for us getting Alone With God

is for us to **purposefully** meet with the Lord in such a way
that **His Word** & **His Spirit** will noticeably transform our lives

Twice in Psalm 62 - King David makes this Famous Commitment

Psalm 62:1–2 (ESV)

1 For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

2 He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

& then he **repeats** this commitment just **3 vs's later**

Psalm 62:5–8 (ESV)

5 For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

6 He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

7 On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

8 Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

We've **got to learn** to **WAIT on God - ALONE**

We've **got to learn** to **BE STILL - in God's Presence**

As Psalm 46:10 says (ESV)

10 "Be still, and know that I am God . . .

But **that's Easier** said than **done** - **Right?**

Be STILL ? Are you **Kidding me ?**

In this- Our **"WORLD OF SCREENS" ?**

If it's not the **TV SCREEN** - it's the **COMPUTER SCREEN**

& it is **ALWAYS** (at all times) . . . the **CELL PHONE SCREEN**

& **not only** are we always **OCCUPIED By a SCREEN** of some sort

But we are under constant bombardment
from COMPETING DESIRES in this WORLD

We are hit with Thousands of Images every day - DESIGNED to
AFFECT how we Think - & what we set our Minds on

& the vast majority of ALL of it
Draws us AWAY from God – NOT Towards God

But We are Sojourners in this world

We are True Citizens of Heaven

We are called to BE - IN the world but NOT - OF the world

But the world is monopolizing our TIME - & our MIND

There's a worship song that says
"This world has nothing for me"

Yet our lives (our Christian Lives) are constantly controlled
by the things of this world

We have got to put a stop to that
preferably for a few minutes every single day

We've got to CHOOSE - To stop the Bombardment of the world
& DO what it takes - to get ALONE WITH GOD

We've got to STOP letting "SCREENS"
Determine what we are giving our attention to

Because Christian's Lives – Are Far Too Often – Directed by the
SAME SCREENS – that Non-Christian's Lives are Directed By

There's **GOT** to **be a time** - Preferably **DAILY** - **Where** we **say**

I am gonna **STOP** Being **LED By**
the **SCREENS of the WORLD** - **Right NOW** . . .

& I'm **going** to **GET ALONE WITH GOD**
& I'm going to **MEET GOD** - **Right NOW !!!**

Getting '**ALONE WITH GOD**' is **about**
Setting aside a time - on a **ROUTINE** basis

where we go **One-on-One with God**
In His Word - & **in Prayer** – **Led by the Holy Spirit**

We get ALONE WITH GOD
& we **INTERACT** with **GOD**
instead of the **SCREENS of this WORLD**

It's a Place where we - **FEED** our **SPIRIT**
INSTEAD of Feeding our **FLESH**

It's a time where we Experience a real relationship with God -
KNOWING That He is With Us
INTERACTING with Him **in His Word**
& **RESPONDING** to Him Accordingly

But . . . If you've **EVER** Tried this – You **KNOW**
We have to **FIGHT** for this time – **Don't We?**

We have to **FIGHT OFF**
the **seemingly important** things of the **Day**

IN order to **GET ALONE WITH GOD** - don't we?

& Jesus Had to FIGHT – For HIS Time Alone with the Father

& - I'd like to say "Just Like Us" – But it WASN'T "Just Like Us"

Because Jesus was in the Process of SAVING THE WORLD

But Jesus did NOT let the Burden of - "Saving The World"
KEEP HIM - from his TIME ALONE with the Father

In fact – He KNEW – If he DIDN'T Get Time ALONE with the Father
He could not "Carry The Burden" of SAVING the WORLD

Luke 5:15–16 (ESV)

15 . . . and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities.

16 But he (Jesus) would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

Jesus would LEAVE the people
(who needed to HEAR his message & be HEALED by Him)

He would WITHDRAW from them
in order to BE ALONE with the Father

Because Time ALONE with the Father
Was Absolutely CRUCIAL to Jesus' PURPOSE on earth

& if it was CRUCIAL to JESUS - while HE was on earth
then How Much More CRUCIAL - should it be TO US

In Mark Ch 1 - After Jesus had taught in Capernaum
He went back to Peter's house
& Jesus HEALED Peter's "Mother-in-Law"

& then we read in Mark 1:32–33 says (ESV)

32 That evening at sundown they brought to him all (word means ALL) who were sick or oppressed by demons.

33 And the whole city (the word means ENTIRE) was gathered together at the door.

The Ministry of Jesus was just gaining momentum

& the whole city wanted to hear Him - & be healed by him

But instead - Mark 1:35-37 says - (ESV)

35 And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

36 And Simon and those who were with him searched for him,

37 and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.”

Everyone is LOOKING for you Jesus – to be Ministered to

But You're ALONE WITH GOD – Praying . . . ??

YEAH - Because Jesus KNEW – He HAD to DO

What was MOST IMPORTANT for him to DO

Jesus routinely - said NO to people's demands

so that He could say YES to being - Alone with God

How much more do WE need to do the same thing ?

In Mark Ch 6 – The Ministry Work Load was Overwhelming

& we read in Mark 6:31 (NLT)

31 Then Jesus said, “Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.” He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn’t even have time to eat.

**But the People saw them leave
& chased them down**

& **Jesus** & the **Disciples** end **up feeding 5,000** of them

But – **after all** that's **Finished** – Jesus **Makes SURE**

That **BOTH** - His **Disciples**, & **Himself**
get some **ALONE TIME with God**

After Free Lunch for 5,000 **was over**

We read in Mark 6:45–46 (NLT)

45 Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and head across the lake to Bethsaida, while he sent the people home.

46 After telling everyone good-bye, he went up into the hills by himself to pray.

Jesus & the **Disciples** were **WORN OUT** from **ministry**
& **Jesus knew** exactly **what to do**

He **dismissed** the **crowds**

Then He **SENT** the **Disciples** Out **ALONE** in a **Boat**

& Then **HE went up** on the **mountain** - **by himself**
to be **ALONE WITH GOD** - & **Pray**

Over & Over again we **Read**
At the beginning of the day

Jesus made a **conscious choice** - to **Remove** himself
to a place where he **could get** - **ALONE WITH GOD** - & **PRAY**

Jesus constantly Met with the Father ALONE

& EVEN MORE SO

when the circumstances got difficult & time got short

Isn't that just the opposite of us?

**We say - *I'm way too busy, things are far too difficult right now*
*I couldn't possibly stop now - to spend time with God***

Maybe when things slow down, or get easier

Which is Exactly the OPPOSITE - of what Jesus Did

Jesus **KNEW** – He **COULD NOT Complete** His **Work** here
Without constant “**ALONE TIME**” with the **Father**

**If THAT is true for Jesus – While HE was on Earth
How much **MORE TRUE** is that – **FOR US****

**Creating a PLACE - & a TIME
Where we can get - **ALONE WITH GOD****

**Provides the ENVIRONMENT Where God can
begin to **Speak to you, & Transform your Life****

it all **STARTS** with a Regular **Commitment**
To **get some time - ALONE WITH GOD**

Psalm 119:147–148 (NLT)

147 I rise early, before the sun is up; I cry out for help and put my hope in your words.

148 I stay awake through the night, thinking about your promise.

THAT is **exactly** what I'm **talking about**

***I rise early, before the sun is up**
I stay awake through the night . . .*

OFTEN – **THAT** is **EXACTLY** what it **TAKES**
to **get some** time – **ALONE WITH GOD**

We've GOT to **Make** a **TIME** - **& a PLACE**

where we Experience a Real Relationship with God

KNOWING That He is With Us
INTERACTING with Him **in His Word**
& **RESPONDING** to Him **Accordingly**

When **God Called** the **Prophet Ezekiel** - He **said** to him in **Eze 3:22**
“Get up and go out into the valley, and I will speak to you there.”

& **We** have **got to HEAR GOD** Calling US to that **place**
where He can **speak to US** - & where we **can respond**

in Matthew 6:6 Jesus said (NLT)

6 But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

The context here is - **No Prideful Public Prayer**

But Jesus is conveying an **ATTITUDE**
of **Humbling meeting** with God - **ALONE**

We're talking about – a PERSONAL Time with God

Where You OPEN your Heart , & your Life - to Him
& You honestly SHARE your Life with God . . .

& then You Honestly HEAR from God
 THROUGH His WORD
& BY His Spirit

& then you APPLY God's Word
 BY His Spirit – TO Your Life

& Then you RESPOND to God's Word
 By the Power of His Holy Spirit within you

& then – Over Time – God will TRANSFORM Your LIFE

He will Transform YOU - from Glory to Glory
 BY the Power of His Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)

18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

We have got to create an Environment

Where we can Regularly spend time
 Beholding the Glory of the Lord

& AS we do – THE LORD will Transform Us

into HIS IMAGE - From One Degree to another
 BY the Power of His Spirit

THAT is what we **signed up FOR** -

That's what we **said** the **Salvation Prayer FOR**

To be Transformed - from **Death to Life**

To be Transformed

from a **Life in the FLESH** – to a **Life in the SPIRIT**

TO have a REAL, Genuine, Life-Changing Relationship

With the **GOD of our Salvation!!**

& **That** is what **GOD WANTS – TOO**

Next Week – We'll **Start Talking** about **WHAT to DO**

During our Time **ALONE WITH GOD**

To **CLOSE Today** – We have **COMMUNION**

& **what** an **incredible WAY** – to **ILLUSTRATE** our **NEED**

to **SHARE LIFE** – with our **Lord Jesus**

Let's Pray

Communion

Jesus took his Disciples into the Upper Room For the Last Supper – ON the night that he would be Betrayed

& on that last night – Surrounding the Communion Meal – Jesus taught the Disciples – IN the most intensive teaching of his ministry

& ALL of it surrounded the Initiating of Communion

In Jn 13 – Jesus began by Washing the Disciples feet - & then giving them strong Warnings – re: what was about to happen

But then – Before continuing the teaching

Jesus stopped & instituted what we call Communion

After communion Jesus continued Giving the Disciples

Assurance of Heaven

Assurance that the Holy Spirit would be With them

Assurance that He would ABIDE in them if they would ABIDE in Him

& then more Assurance the Holy Spirit would be with them

& then he Prayed for them

& Right in the Middle of all that

comes this incredible Illustration of SHARING LIFE with JESUS

Matthew 26:26–29 (ESV)

26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”

27 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you,

28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

29 I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”