

WOMEN IN THE WORD
of
FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

“INTIMACY WITH GOD” by Cynthia Heald

PART ONE – The Desire for Intimacy
(Lessons 1 and 2)

September 21, 2021

LESSON ONE...Our longing for Intimacy

Other words for intimacy are relationship or familiarity or closeness or friendship.

Do you think of God in this way?

Our book states...”there is within each of us a longing for love and intimacy that only HE can fulfill.”

Do you believe this is true for you?

Our book also asserts...”This is true intimacy: confidence that what we reveal about ourselves will be understood and that the ONE to whom we disclose ourselves will accept us, seek our good, and communicate support and love.”

Perhaps the first step toward increased/improved intimacy with GOD is to acknowledge that we actually have a need.

The Psalmist expressed this well:

From Psalm 62.....

Rest
Salvation
Rock/fortress

These words are repeated over and over in this Psalm. Not only is it referring to the character and attributes of GOD, but it is also pointing out what our hearts desire for ourselves.

From Psalm 63.....

Thirst
Longing

David expresses his need and then responds to GOD by acknowledging His love and power and glory.

GOD is always responsive to our need of Him.

From Psalm 73.....

Here David is looking around at others and the circumstances he sees. He acknowledges that it bothers him that others prosper.

But he comes to himself in verse 17.....”till I entered the sanctuary”

Verse 23.....David testifies of God’s faithfulness.

Familiar verses: 23-28.....It is all about the Sovereign GOD who holds us together.

GOD is available to us. We want HIM in our heart of hearts. Can we humble ourselves and acknowledge our need and seek Him?

This question must be answered.

LESSON TWO.....God's desire for Us.

Psalm 23.....

The LORD is my shepherd.....David knew the job of a shepherd.

This psalm is full of promise of protection and care and provision

Quiet waters

The rod

The staff

The table

Psalm 27.....

GOD wants to be our light and salvation and stronghold and our confidence.

We are exhorted to “be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord” (vs 14)

Psalm 139.....This is the best psalm to understand how well God knows each of us.

“know.....discern.....perceive.....hem me in.....knowledge....

You are there.....fearfully and wonderfully made.

This should be a psalm of great comfort to each of us. When we are known by GOD in this most personal and intimate way, can we not then trust Him?

Our challenge is to move in GOD's direction through time in His Word, through prayer, through being still and letting Him show us His presence through His Spirit in us.

Any relationship takes effort and time and energy. True? How willing are we to invest that time and energy and effort into becoming more intimate with GOD.

Thank you all for being “flexible” this week with the video teaching. God always provides for us.

I will miss being with you but will be praying for you.

Please remember to let your group leader know if you are interested in volunteering for any of our support ministries.

NEXT WEEK we will start on Part TWO, “The Creator, a Worth Confidant”.

Annette McManigle will be teaching “GOD is Righteous”.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY.....GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!