

GROWING OLD WITH GOD

Genesis 17

How to have a close relationship with God:

1. Spend time

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me... (1)

2. Stay loyal

...and be blameless, (1)

3. Have faith

No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God." (5-8)

4. Be committed

This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. (10)

5. Let go

And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. (18-19)