



PURSuing A SPECIAL & DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”
— James 4:8

Foundation: Mark 3:14 | Peter • James • John

Key Scriptures

- **Primary Scriptures:** Mark 5:37; Matthew 17:1; Mark 14:33
- **Foundation Scripture:** Mark 3:14
- **Key Verse:** James 4:8 — “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”

THE INVITATION: “BE WITH HIM”

Mark 3:14

- Before Jesus sent the disciples to preach, He called them to be with Him.
- The crowd knew Jesus from a distance; the disciples walked with Him.
- Peter, James, and John were repeatedly invited into moments of greater closeness.
- God invites us closer—but we must respond.

The question: What must I do to develop a deeper, more personal relationship with God?

1. MAKE TIME TO BE WITH HIM

Relationship requires intentional time

- Choose a TIME, a PLACE, and a PLAN.
- Give God intentional time—not leftover time or only emergency time.
- Moses separated himself to meet with God. Jesus withdrew to pray.
- Start where you are: even 15 intentional minutes can become a sacred rhythm.

Where is God on your calendar?

2. DEVELOP A HUNGER TO KNOW HIM

Seek His face—not only His hand

- On the mountain, Peter, James, and John saw more of who Jesus was.
- Move from “Lord, what can You do for me?” to “Lord, I want to know You.”
- Moses: “Show me Your glory.” Paul: “That I may know Him.”
- Let encounters with God create a hunger for more of God.

Desire becomes intimacy when desire becomes pursuit.

3. LISTEN, OBEY & STAY IN PRAYER

“Hear ye Him.” — Matthew 17:5

- God speaks to us primarily through His Word; listening should lead to obedience.
- Ask: What is God showing me about Himself? About me? What must I do?
- In Gethsemane Jesus said, “Watch and pray”—yet the disciples slept.
- Prayer keeps us spiritually awake and turns our relationship with God into an ongoing conversation.

Every act of obedience makes room for deeper fellowship with God.

4. ABIDE—DON'T JUST VISIT

Make closeness with God a lifestyle

JAIRUS'S HOUSE

His **POWER**

Mark 5:37

THE MOUNTAIN

His **GLORY**

Matthew 17:1

GETHSEMANE

His **HEART**

Mark 14:33

MEET with God daily • **READ** His Word • **TALK** to God

OBEY what He shows you • **KEEP SHOWING UP**

7-Day Challenge: Give God the first intentional 15 minutes of your day. “Lord, help me walk with You today.”