

Drawing Nigh to God

The Terms for Ultimate Fellowship

What Is at Stake?

- **The Laodiceans wrongly thought all was well (Rev 3:14-19).**
- **Jesus offered to come in and sup with any man (Rev 3:20).**
- **Ephesus could be filled with all the fulness of God (Eph 3:14-19).**
- **Most Christians are never taught this and never obtain this.**
- **What should we do to obtain and maximize this fellowship?**

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James 4:8

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James 4:8

- **This promise is exactly what we are looking for – the how to!**
- **This promise must be believed, claimed, enjoyed, applied.**
- **No other important person will respond this surely to you.**
- **No important person thinks you drawing near is precious.**
- **It is simple, but most will not do it – run to God by any means!**

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James 4:8

- **God will not visit those playing with sin (Is 59:1-2; Jer 5:25; Mic 3:4).**
- **Consider how God often left Israel alone when they sinned.**
- **Consider how God left Saul when he sinned against Him.**
- **Fellowship requires you to be in the light like God (I John 1:7).**
- **It is easy to confess, repent, repudiate, and reform (I John 1:9).**

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James 4:8

- **God despises a double mind – they get nothing (Ja 1:8; Matt 6:24).**
- **No wonder David prayed for God to unite his heart (Ps 86:11).**
- **You purify your heart by rejecting any hypocrisy in religion.**
- **You purify your heart by flushing any competing affections.**
- **He knows your heart better than you know it, so come clean!**

**Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter
be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.**

James 4:9

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- **God expects seriousness for this His greatest blessing.**
- **Any deficiency in fellowship with God should demand this!**
- **You know the role of fasting for such great needs (Matt 17:21).**
- **Why would you fast for anything else ... but not for this?**
- **Most Christians never consider such efforts for fellowship.**

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James 4:9

- **Laodicea was a laughing and happy church until Jesus spoke!**
- **There is a time to replace earthly joy with heavenly sorrow.**
- **If you are happy while lacking in fellowship, you are in danger.**
- **There is a time to turn your life upside down for Christ's sake.**
- **Joel Osteen and most Christians cannot imagine this conduct.**

**Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he
shall lift you up.**

James 4:10

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- **We humble ourselves by a broken and contrite heart (Ps 51:17).**
- **We get down to admit our foolishness and total need of Him.**
- **If Job had humbled himself earlier, his trial could have ended.**
- **If you cannot admit you are selfish and sinful, you are lost.**
- **God is absolutely and perfectly right in every requirement.**

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James 4:10

- **God will never leave the truly repentant groveling for long.**
- **John fell at His feet as dead, but Jesus lifted him up (Rev 1:17).**
- **The purpose for the humility is to gain Him ... He will come!**
- **No matter depth of mourning ... He can overwhelm with joy.**
- **God's resists the proud but will exalt the humble (I Pet 5:5-7).**

**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous
therefore, and repent.**

Revelation 3:19

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Revelation 3:19

- **God is a God of zeal – fervent intensity – seek Him that way.**
- **If the downside is as bad as stated, zeal is needed (Rev 3:14-18).**
- **If the upside is as good as stated, zeal is called for (Rev 3:20).**
- **Repent! ... it saved David, Ahab, Manasseh, Nineveh, etc.!**
- **God is a God of zeal ... you will be blessed based on effort!**

**Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and
repent, and do the first works;**

Revelation 2:5a

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repent, and do the first works;

Revelation 2:5a

- Ephesus was a great church, but they had lost first love.
- The warning was severe ... they would lose their candlestick.
- #1 ... Remember ... consider that you have lost your love.
- #2 ... Repent ... beg God to forgive your lack of affection.
- #3 ... Do the first works – start again with things lovers do.

**And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall
search for me with all your heart.**

Jeremiah 29:13

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Jeremiah 29:13

- In case you missed it, you must draw nigh with all your heart.
- In case you missed it, this is an all-out effort to draw nigh.
- In case you missed it, there can be no competitors to Him.
- Searching seldom has instant results, so keep seeking.
- *Let others after earth aspire, Christ is the treasure I desire.*

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones (Isaiah 59:15).

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- **Seen in James 4:8, confess sins with a broken heart (Ps 51:17)!**
- **Confess all – bitterness, covetousness, slothfulness, etc., etc.**
- **This cannot be overstated, so examine yourself (Ps 139:23-24).**
- **Yet, you must believe God faithfully forgives (Pr 28:13; Ps 32:5).**

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- **After confession of sins, then personal commitment is made.**
- **After commitment is made, then begging prayer is made.**
- **Follow David's example in Psalms (Ps 27:9; 40:17; 69:17; 143:7-8).**
- **Pray for the Holy Spirit as Jesus Himself taught (Luke 11:13).**

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great, according as thou hast spoken, saying,**

Numbers 14:17

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- **When going to God in prayer, take His own words to Him.**
- **Moses, one of God's five, was a master at reasoning in prayer.**
- **Hezekiah, one of Judah's finest, put a letter before God.**
- **Take a text like Revelation 3:20 and read it to God in prayer.**
- **Claim His promises by His integrity and the written words!**

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Acts 7:59

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Acts 7:59

- **We ordinarily pray to God the Father in the name of Jesus.**
- **Stephen added a direct request to Jesus when calling on God.**
- **When you go in prayer with Rev 3:20, ask Jesus directly!**
- **Charismatics and Jewish gypsies abuse His name, so what!**
- **Saul of Tarsus effectively addressed Jesus directly (Acts 9:6).**

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are possible to him that believeth.**

Mark 9:23

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- This exchange also took place with the lunatic's father.
- All things are possible by faith ... nothing without it (Jas 1:6-7).
- Lovers ask for your trust ... the greatest Lover asks ... believe!
- If weak, cry with tears: *Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.*
- How do you increase your faith? By the Spirit and scripture!

**Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and
fasting.**

Matthew 17:21

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Matthew 17:21

- **Prayer for fellowship is a large part of drawing nigh** (Ep 3:14-19).
- **But prayer for large blessings needs fasting** (Acts 13:2-3; I Cor 7:5).
- **How did Daniel get answer of Messiah – by fasting** (Dan 9:3).
- **Be honest with God – when did you last fast to know Him?**
- **Review the rules of Bible fasting ...** www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/fastings.pdf.

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- I have recently used this verse and 14:21 with you repeatedly.
- Jesus was leaving for heaven, but promised something better.
- There are two conditions here ... loving and obeying Christ.
- The one follows the other, for real love of Christ will obey.
- Every couple knows this is how it works ... love and comply!

Quench not the Spirit. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

I Thessalonians 5:19 and Ephesians 4:30

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I Thessalonians 5:19 and Ephesians 4:30

- Fellowship with God is by the Spirit ... do not offend Him.
- To quench is to put out a fire ... hot, first love requires Him!
- To grieve is to offend Him ... thus turning Him away from you!
- If you vex Him enough, He will become your enemy (Is 63:10)!
- The things He loves are well documented (Gal 5:22-23; Eph 5:9)!

**No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another,
God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.**

1 John 4:12

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1 John 4:12

- **You cannot see God, so how can you know God is in you?**
- **You can experiment by loving others, which has two benefits.**
- **Loving others is proof God is in you and will max fellowship.**
- **Loving others is proof God is in you and showing His love.**
- **This should be self-evident: since God is love, we must love.**

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- **Delight in God Himself, and He will grant your desires (Ps 37:4).**
- **But delight also in those things God delights in (Jer 9:23-24).**
- **Remember the importance of love, because God is love.**
- **Sigh where God sighs, so He will have mercy (Eze 9:4; Ps 119:136).**
- **Delight in God and His delights is condition & proof (Ps 63:1-6).**

**By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth:
I sought him, but I found him not.**

Song of Solomon 3:1

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- **What should you think and do if He does not overwhelm you?**
- **Review the points thus far and be transparent before Him!**
- **Are you Orpah or Ruth when it comes to a little dissuasion?**
- **Be like Jacob and Peter toward setbacks (Gen 32:26; Jn 6:66-68).**
- **This was taught in detail ... www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/seek-ye-my-face.pdf.**

Summary of How To (1)

- **Draw nigh by cleansing and purification** (Jas 4:8-10).
- **Be zealous about the matter and repent** (Rev 3:19).
- **Remember, repent, and do first works** (Rev 2:5).
- **Search for Him with all your heart** (Jer 29:13).
- **Confess sins with a broken heart** (Is 57:15).
- **Beg for it in effectual, fervent prayer** (Ps 101:2).
- **Take words of scripture with you** (Num 14:17).
- **Pray directly to the Lord Jesus Christ** (Acts 7:59).
- **Believe with as much faith as you can** (Mark 9:23).
- **Add fasting to your praying for earnestness** (Matt 17:21).

Summary of How To (2)

- **Love and obey as Jesus taught** (John 14:21,23).
- **Neither grieve nor quench Spirit** (I Thess 5:19; Eph 4:30).
- **Love the brethren abundantly** (I John 4:12-13).
- **Delight in God and His things** (Jer 9:23-24).
- **Do not let difficulty hinder you** (Gen 32:26).

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- **Jesus offered to come in and sup with any man (Rev 3:20).**
- **Ephesus could be filled with all the fulness of God (Eph 3:14-19).**
- **Most Christians are never taught and never obtain it.**
- **You will choose today and tomorrow what is important to you.**

For Further Study

Fellowship with Christ (Rev 3:20) ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/fellowship-with-christ.pdf.

Filled with God ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/filled-with-god.pdf.

Seek Ye My Face ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/seek-ye-my-face.pdf.

Hot, Cold, or Lukewarm ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/hot-cold-or-lukewarm.pdf.

Lovest Thou Me ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/lovest-thou-me.pdf.

He Is Altogether Lovely ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/bible/christ/he-is-altogether-lovely.php.

We Would See Jesus ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/we-would-see-jesus.pdf.

Eating and Drinking Christ ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/eating-and-drinking-christ.pdf.

Pressing Saints or Belly Worshippers ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/belly-worshippers.pdf.

Three Assumptions of Faith ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/assumptions-of-faith-1987.pdf.

Heart of David ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/heart-of-david.pdf.

Walking with God ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/walking-with-god.pdf.

Spiritual Adultery ... www.letgodbetruerue.com/pdf/spiritual-adultery.pdf.

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