

SEEKING NARROW

Personal Relationship with Jesus

All relationships take work to maintain and grow. Only one person pursuing the relationship will not result in growth. God is always pursuing us – what are we doing in return?

I. Are you aware of God's presence in your life?

- a) Is there anything hindering you from being aware?

II. Are the loudest voices in your head ones of Fear, Guilt and Shame?

- a) Jesus never speaks to us in Fear, Guilt or Shame. Listening to these voices is the lie the enemy needs you to remain in. Believing the lie is comfortable – it only required that you remain where you are and not deal with the problem or pursue something outside your comfort zone.
- b) Silencing the voice of the enemy and hearing the truth that Jesus **HAS** been telling you your whole life is difficult to hear. Truth is difficult to hear sometimes. Hearing God call you by name might be completely out of your comfort zone – you might not believe that God has a specific purpose for you. You might not believe that you are capable of what He is asking. This is a condition that is based on the lie that you have believed in for so long. Acknowledging to God that you believe but asking him to help your unbelief is a daily activity.

III. What does your "Secret Place" look like?


- a) Do you have expectations as to what it should be or look like?
- b) What is your "goal" with quiet time..... and does it line up with God's?
- c) Not considering time as a factor: How do you determine when you are done with quiet time?
- d) Do you have a journal and do you write out your thoughts?

IV. Do you know Jesus – not as a historical figure but as someone you have had an encounter with?

- a) Have you had a personal interaction with Him?
- b) Where did you meet Him?
- c) "Who do you say that I am?" Jesus has been asking people this question for at least 2,000 years. Your response is understanding who He is?

V. Out of all the relationship you have:

- a) Which ones do you enjoy the most and why?
- b) Which ones do you dread and why?
- c) Which ones do you wish were better?

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- d) Who is your mentor or someone you can trust not to be judgmental with your internal dialogue?

VI. Does your prayer life consist of leaving God voicemails of your wish list or are you having a conversation and listening to His response?

VII. S-E-L-F Prayer (Dr. Ed Young)

- a) Surrender – Freely giving up your motives for those of God’s will to be done in our lives. Putting your baggage you have been carrying around at the foot of the cross know that it was never yours to care in the first place.
- b) Empty - Laying down one’s own agenda at the foot of the cross. We are filled with things that are not aligned with God’s plan for our lives. Psalms 139:23 – Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts. Asking God to search for the things that are taking up space that need not be there. **We** have to make room for the things God wants to fill us with – He will not force Himself upon us.
- c) Lift him in praise – To be forever thankful for what Jesus has done for us. Without Friday there can be no Sunday! The work on the cross that Christ did for us show us the truth, make a way for us to enter the throne room of God and provides a life that is Love.
- d) Fill – Once empty, being filled with the Holy Spirit in a way that renews and refreshes your soul.

WE ARE ALL VESSELS THAT LEAK – WE HAVE TO BE CONSTANTLY FILLED. MATT 5:6 – HUNGERING AFTER SOMETHING AND BEING “FILLED” NOT “FULL”.

