



LIFEgroup Homework

Week of March 11, 2007

What Does God Want From Me?

(Do you have an intimate relationship with God?)

We have been learning that our magnificently great God does not need us, and yet He wants us. He is the one who takes the initiative to have an intimate relationship with us. This week we learned how God's people began to take their relationship with God for granted. They thought that they had God figured out and that God was there for their benefit and use. They thought that God lived in the temple and they could let Him out whenever they needed something.

God has made it clear that He wants a personal, intimate relationship with us. As with any relationship, it takes two willing partners. Each person has a choice to make. Receive the love of God and cooperate with God's purpose in life, or rebel, resist and reject the greatest offer of love in the history of mankind.

Sharing Questions

- 1) Tell about the first time you experienced, tasted "puppy love."
- 2) Who do you know that is the best example of a healthy, growing marriage? What are the ingredients that contribute to their success as a couple?

Getting Started (questions):

God invites us to “Taste and see” that He is good. Psalm 38:4
This is an invitation to experience God’s goodness. How would you describe your experience in tasting God? If you have not yet taken the step of faith to “taste and see,” what is holding you back from taking a bite?

What describes your current appetite for growing closer and more intimate with you Creator?

Have you been taking your relationship with God for granted lately?

Homework:

Read Isaiah 55:

1) Who is the invitation made to? (vs 1)

2) What is the cost?

3) What can be expected result of coming to God? (vs 3-5)

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4) What is the urgency of the invitation? When will it be too late? How much time do we have left? (vs 6)

5) Rephrase verses 8-11 in your own words. Describe the power of God's word in accomplishing God's purpose.

Spending time with another person prepares the way for to greater intimacy. Pastor Stan mentioned six suggestions for spending personal time alone with God, leading to greater intimacy:

1. Make a time everyday
2. Read the Bible chapter by chapter
3. Make sure that I won't be disturbed
4. Use a notebook - write down what God gives me... Journal.
5. Get my heart right... (Psalm 46, Psalm 73, Isaiah 53, Isaiah 55:6-11)
6. Read a chapter, maybe 1/2 a chapter if it is long...

Was this something new to you?

If you have a personal time with God, what does that look like? How often? When? Content? Where?

How would you describe your heart for developing greater intimacy with your Heavenly Father?

Read Psalm 63:1-6

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David (a man after God's own heart) wrote this Psalm while living in a dry dusty forsaken desert.

1) How does he describe his desire to seek God? Is it haphazard or purposeful? What describes your desire?

2) How do you know that David has an intimate, personal relationship with his creator? (3-4)

3) Why is David thinking of God through the night? (6-7)

Application (so what?):

1) Is there something, or someone in your life, that is competing for allegiance with God? What needs to change?

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