

FELLOWSHIP, PRAYER, WORSHIP

CREATED FOR FELLOWSHIP

Key Scriptures: Psalm 139:13-18, Acts 17:26-28, James 4:8(a)

God created you for fellowship with Him. He wants to fellowship with you, not because of what you have or have not done, and not based on any works, circumstances, looks, status or accomplishments. **He wants to fellowship with you because He loves you.** He responds to you every time you draw near to Him. Seek Him daily with your whole heart, and you will find Him. Be real with Him. Learn how to please Him with your faith in His Word, and let Him Father you. When He brings correction to your life, trust that He is bringing it for the purpose of deeper and more intimate fellowship together. Remain in His love and fellowship.

Your Father does not want your relationship with Him to be difficult or strained. He loves you, and longs to hear your voice, no matter the condition you are in. As you mature in fellowship with Him, and in faith through His Word, fellowship becomes easier and easier. Remember that fellowship is two ways, talking to God, and also being quiet and listening to Him.

1. What does God promise He will do when we seek Him and draw near to Him?

2. Discuss ways you want to mature in your fellowship with God. How will you make those steps?

ENTER IN AND PERSEVERE THROUGH FAITH

Key Scriptures: John 16:33, Hebrews 11:1-6, Romans 10:10-11, Hebrews 10:35-39

While we get the privilege of feeling God's mighty presence, we also live by faith, knowing that He is near whether we feel His presence or not. This means that if things don't look good at the moment, we still live by faith! There is a perseverance and determination we have in our relationship with Him. **We know we are one with our Father** and nothing will move us from that place.

Don't let the highs and lows of emotions, circumstances, disappointments, attacks or setbacks change your fellowship with God or shake your faith. Our experiences never change God's Word or nature! Without faith we cannot please Him. Believe that HE IS and believe that He REWARDS your diligent seeking! In this, you will never be put to shame.

1. How will you persevere if have a time that you don't 'feel' God?

2. According to Hebrews 11:1, what is faith? Discuss.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Key Scriptures: James 5:16-18, Matthew 18:19-20, Matthew 17:20, 1 John 5:14-15, Phil. 4:6-7

God has given us the gift of faith, so that we will pray out His will upon the earth. Prayer is effective, it has purpose and it gets the job done! Never be ashamed to pray. Prayer produces MIRACLES!

We are created, by design, to be in fellowship with God all day, all the time. We commune with Him in our prayer closet, as well as while we go about the tasks of the day. There are also times of prolonged prayer and fasting that will produce great results. It is also important to surround yourself with people who will pray the prayer of agreement with you. Corporate prayer at churches, homes, and with groups is effective and powerful.

There are many forms of prayer - **petition** (asking), **declaration** (using God-given authority to speak forth the Word of God), **intercession** (crying out from the depths of our spirit/standing in the gap with urgency), **thanksgiving**, **praying in the Spirit** (tongues) and **utterance by the Spirit** (utterance that comes out in our language, but is directly from the Spirit of God). Remember that fellowship is two ways, talking to God, and also being quiet and listening to Him.

1. What forms of prayer have you been familiar with? What forms would you like to grow in?

3. Do you have a testimony of answered prayer? Have you witnessed a miracle through prayer?

WORSHIP, THE HIGHEST FORM OF PRAYER AND A MIGHTY WEAPON

Key Scriptures: 1 Chronicles 16:23-34, Psalm 100, Daniel 3:16-29, Acts 16:22-28

Worship is our highest form of prayer and fellowship unto the Lord. As we yield to worship in Spirit and in truth, we are not asking for anything, or concerned about anything but raising HIS Name above all. While we praise and worship, we declare that He is who He says He is and He will do what He says He will do. We rest in His victory, His goodness and His promises.

Jesus taught us that before we even pray, we lift our eyes in worship, "Our Father in Heaven, Holy is Your Name". The atmosphere of worship changes everything. The atmosphere of your home, your car, your work place, your school, and wherever you are is CHANGED when you worship. Praises and shouts unto God release victory, walls come crashing down, prisons shake, doors are opened, and people are set free! Release a spirit of praise and worship everywhere you go. Worship on your best days, and refuse to bow to any other god, even when the fire is seven times hotter. Live a life of praise and worship as you grow more and more in love with your great Heavenly Father!

1. Describe your Father God in words of worship.

2. What are some of the gods of the world today vying for our attention, affection and worship? How will you cast them down?
