

Prayer Study #80
Intimacy with God

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and with blemish.

Ephesians 5:25-27

To be intimate with the Lord is to know Him. The Hebrew word translated *know* or *knew* in the Bible is *yada* and is the same word used, as in Adam knew Eve and conceived a child, for the most intimate of relationships.

Those who know the Lord or walk intimately with Him shall:

1. Be strong and do exploits: Daniel 11:32 *And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall be corrupt by flatteries; but the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits.*
2. Walk in His presence wherein is fullness of joy: Hosea 6:3 *Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord; His going forth is prepared as the morning, and He shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.* Psalm 16:11 *In thy presence is fullness of joy.*
3. Walk in deliverance: Exodus 6:7 *And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God, who bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.*
4. Have peace and assurance that He will be there for us even until the last day on the earth: Job 19:25 *For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.*
5. Repent: Job 42:4-5 *I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eye seeth Thee. Wherefore I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes.*
6. Give Him your whole heart: Jeremiah 24:7 *I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the Lord, and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, for they shall return unto me with their whole heart.*

The goal of Paul's life was to know Christ:

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of

all things, and do count them but refuse that I may win Christ. And be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which of God by faith. That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made comformable unto His death, if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect, but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press towards the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

A warning:

Titus 1:16 *They profess that they know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable and disobedient and unto every good work reprobate.*

Revelation 21:7-8 *He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful and unbelieving and the abominable and murderers and fornicators and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.*

Scriptural Examples of Intimacy with Jesus:

John, that disciple whom Jesus loved

Mary of Bethany, the one who sat at Jesus's feet

Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene was the first to witness the most important event in history, the resurrection of Jesus. She ran to tell Peter and John that someone had stolen the body of Jesus. Peter and John ran back to the tomb, found what she said seemed true, and returned to their own homes, but not Mary. She stayed at the tomb. Two angels appear asking her why she is weeping. She answers, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid Him." Then she sees someone whom she thinks is the gardener. He too asks why she is weeping and whom she seeks. She replies, "Sir, if you have borne Him hence, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away." He then answered, "Mary." She replied, "Rabboni!" Thus she became the first to recognize and herald His resurrection, the first to tell the greatest news ever proclaimed.