

December

## CULTIVATING INTIMACY WITH CHRIST

*Philippians 3:10* – “That I may know Him, and the power of His Resurrection, and the Fellowship of his Sufferings, being made conformable unto His death...”

‘Falling in Love with Jesus was the best thing I’ve ever done!’ Knowing Him has made my life complete. Knowing Him has taken away all fear and doubt. Knowing Him I am encouraged. I am confident. I am no longer stressful and continually worried. I love Jesus and He loves me.

Studying the Gospels will bring you to a closer relationship with God. In them you can actually see Jesus. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John share their experiences with Christ. They walked with Him. They ate with him. Study the Gospels and you will get to know Christ. They learned His mannerisms and how he reacted to certain situations. They learned from him and was sometimes rebuked by him so that they could be prepared for what they would have to face. They mimicked him. We should act like and look like our Father! Peter was recognized in the court yard because Peter looked like one of His disciples

Children should look like their fathers. There should be some resemblance so that we know that you are Bubba’s child. We’ve often heard the expression, “He’s acting just like his old daddy.” I want the label. I want to walk so closely with God that every time you see me you think there goes an anointed Woman of God!

You don’t know a person until you have spent some time with them. When your husband first winked his eye at you, the first thing you thought or said was, “I don’t know you.” If he was good looking you made it your business to get to know him. You asked your friends about him. You watched him. You wanted to know his character; who he hung around. Your folks wanted to know ‘who was his people’. Your getting to know him had purpose.

I don’t know you if I don’t talk to you. I don’t know you if I don’t spend some time with you. Our relationship with God must be personal. We read His Word to know what history says about Him, but we enter into His presence to intimately know who He is.

I submit to you, 5 Characteristics that will cause you to Cultivate Intimacy with Christ: Faith, Worship, Prayer, Obedience and Endurance. To cultivate is to till,

plow, dig, work, fertilize. We need to TILL the Word, PLOW the Scriptures, Dig into the Parables, Work the Word (faith without works is dead) and Fertilize our Relationship with God!

If you have Faith down, maybe you need to Worship more. Maybe you Worship every morning before you start your day, you may need to Pray a little longer. Perhaps your Prayer life is intact, but are you being Obedient to the Word of God. Finally, you may have all of the before mentioned, but you lack Endurance.