

Bible Study Lesson

“CONNECTING WITH GOD”

JOHN 15:4-6 (KJV)

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INTRODUCTION: You can say all the right things, do all the right things, and yet still not experience the deep relationship God wants you to have with Him. You can appear to have the perfect Christian life, but not be connecting much with God. If we want to grow closer to God we have to learn how to connect with God. Every relationship takes certain habits and practices to grow in depth. This Lesson explores the ways we can learn to connect with God throughout our day and our life.

I. CONNECTING WITH GOD IS OUR PRIMARY DESIGN:

Isaiah 44:2 (CEV) *“I am your Creator. You were in my care even before you were born ...”*

1. Everything Created has a **PRIMARY DESIGN** that fulfills a **PRIMARY PURPOSE**. The multipliers have a primary purpose. It’s not designed to be a knife, screwdriver, or a bottle opener its primary design-function is a set of pliers.

2. Human beings are like this multi-plier. We can do a lot of various functions in this life. Have careers; make money, own possessions, and raise families. But, our primary design was to relate to the spiritual.

Genesis 1:27 (NLT) *“So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”*

Eccl. 3:11 (NLT) *“...He has planted eternity in the human heart,...”*

II. HOW GOD CONNECTS TO US:

1. The FATHER – Initiates the Connection.

Jeremiah 31:3 (NLT) *“Long ago the LORD said to Israel: “I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.”*

Ephesians 1:4 (NLT) “Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.”

2. The Son - Makes the Connection.

John 14:6 (NLT) “Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

Ephesians 2:18 (NLT) “Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us.”

I Timothy 2:5 (NLT) “For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus.”

3. The Holy Spirit - Keeps us Connected.

II Corinthians 13:14 (NLT) “May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

The Communion of the **HOLY SPIRIT**: Paul wished them to experience the **PRESENCE** and **POWER** of God's Spirit as they walk in Fellowship with the Father, the Son and with other believers. As the very presence of God within us, the Holy Spirit guards, comforts, encourages, and counsels us.

III. HOW DO WE STAY CONNECTED - OUR PART

1. The Bible – God’s Word

John 15:7 (NLT) “But if you remain (abide) in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted.”

II Timothy 2:15 (KJV) “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2. Obedience - to God’s Word and His Will.

Isaiah 59:2 (NLT) “It’s your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.”

John 14:15, 23, 24 (NIV) “If you love me, you will obey what I command. “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home

with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching”.

I John 5:3 “This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out His commands. This is love for God: to obey His commands. And His commands are not burdensome...”

II Thess. 2:15 “So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.”

II Timothy 1:13 “What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.”

3. **Faith** - when I don't feel connected.

Romans 8:38-39 (NLT) “And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

4. **Prayer and Praise** - keeps me focused on God.

Psalm 145:18 (NLT) “The LORD is close to all who call on him, yes, to all who call on him in truth.”

Colossians 3:16-17 (NLT) “Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.”

5. **His Family** – Stay in Relationship and Fellowship with other Believers.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT) “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

IV. CONNECTING WITH GOD WE DISPLAY OUR DEVOTION

1. Connecting with God is how we **LOVE** Him.

Mark 12:30 (NLT) *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind and with all your strength.”*

This verse alone shows us how much God wants us to Connect with Him. Having a Divine Connection is all about love and all about relationship. This is what God wants.

2. Connecting with God GROWS our love for Him.

I John 4:17 (NLT) *“And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect...”*

Eph. 3:17 *“Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong.”*

If we want our love for God to grow, we must spending time with Him. “As we live in God” our love grows more perfect. “As we keep trusting Him” our roots grow down into God’s love.

V. CONNECTING WITH GOD WE HEAR AND RECEIVE DIRECTION

1. Connecting with God enables us to **HEAR HIS VOICE.**

John 10:27 (NASB) *“My sheep hear My voice...”*

Rev. 3:20 (NLT) *“Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.”*

2. Connecting with God enables us to follow **HIS INSTRUCTIONS** and **DIRECTIONS**

John 10:27 (NASB) *“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”*

Psalms 23:1-3 (NIV) *“The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.”*

Prov. 3:5-6 (NLT) *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.”*

One of the great blessings of hearing God’s voice is receiving directions from Him. It is normal for spiritually connected people to receive directions from God about their life and choices.

CONCLUSION: As I have asked the Lord what He wants from **Us** this year, this is one message I believe He is saying to Us loud and clear. “**PWBC, connect with ME.**” I believe God is inviting **Us** to experience more of Him this year as we go through these difficult times. Will we **Follow**? Can we make a **Commitment** to Connect with God on a **Daily Basis**?