

August 28, 2022

Connecting With God

by George Slover

*“Your word I have hidden in my heart,
That I might not sin against You!” (Psalms
119:11)*

The above verse is a truly practical one. The best defense against sin is reading and meditating on God’s word. I would venture to say that almost all of my readers would agree with this. So, why is it so difficult to get folks to devote some time each day to daily reading, meditation, and prayer? Maybe, it is because we fail to see the seriousness of the battle!

If you were deserted in a wilderness, but you had a manual that listed essential rules of survival, would you read it? Absolutely! Reality: You are in the middle of a wilderness. You are in a battle for the survival of your soul! Reality: God’s word is your survival manual!

Unfortunately, we view the discipline of daily Bible reading with the same enthusiasm of a child who is told to brush his teeth! “We ought to do that,” but we are not fully committed! In modern times such apathy is inexcusable. Use that MP3 player to download gospel singing, gospel preaching, or the text of Scripture. Remove the CD with secular music from your player, and insert one with gospel music. Take time to pray! Your spiritual survival may depend upon it!

Time with God each day is not just about knowledge. It is about your eternal destiny. It is about connecting with God!

Shaping Our Attitude

By Rickie Jenkins

Every day we get to shape our attitude. We get to shape our attitude for how we show up for others around us. We get to shape our attitude for how we treat others and respond to them.

What will govern our attitude? According to the world’s standards it is, “dog-eat dog.” According to survival of the fittest it is, the “biggest dog wins.” The problem is, there is always a bigger dog no matter how big we may be. Surely there is a better way. Surely, there is a more objective way to govern our attitude. Paul said, “Let this mind be in you.” That is, have the mind of Christ. When thinking about our attitude, think about His mind.

For example, consider His meekness. When Peter cut off the high priest servant’s ear, maybe he thought the armies of heaven would descend and the truth of the Messiah would be substantiated by the power of God displayed. It did not happen that way. No, the Lord said, “Put it up.” If He had wanted, He could have called 12 legions of angels, that is 72,000 angels.

Meekness is not weakness. Never was there a greater demonstration of the meekness of Christ than when He could have destroyed them all but didn’t do it. He let them bind His arms, carry Him away, and go through trial. The trial was a mockery of justice with lying witnesses paid to tell their tale. The hypocritical

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Our fall meeting with Zeke Flores is scheduled for September 18-21

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

religious leaders whose pride, arrogance and jealousy, were leading them to destroy this One who was getting in their way of their personal ambition. He was meek. We grow to be like Him.

Next, consider His forgiving love. We grow to be forgiving as He forgives. No more powerful revelation of the mind and heart of God is clearer than the cross. This is when the heart of God is so open for us to see, understand, and know Him. In spite of all their cruelty toward Him, He says, "Father forgive them....." They are torturing Him and taunting Him while they do it. They have no compassion and no mercy. Not even this pathetic scene touched their hearts. They rail at him in bitterness and cynicism, and He pleads for God to have mercy on them.

We do not understand a God like this. We understand we are to be merciful even to those who hate us and spend their lives in no other activity than to make our lives wretched and miserable. We love them still and we are going to do them good.

Paul will say this, "Have this mind in you." It seems incredible when I think about it. I fail in all these points more than once. It encourages me to think that Jesus said if a man sins against you seven times a day and asks for forgiveness, forgive him. That is what the Lord intends for me to do. I look at the life of Christ and His patient love and maybe He will not throw me away.

We look at Him, study carefully what He said and did, and those truths transform our hearts. Is it possible to have the mind of Christ? Can we make this our purpose? God said it was. When talking about the kingdom of God, He said, "Ask, seek, knock and it shall be given to you." It is a kingdom, disposition of mind, that is for the asking. If only we can develop His attitude of heart and mind. By virtue of our determination to follow Him at every cost, we at last will have forming in us His mind. His heart. His character. We will look like Him.

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Jerry Richardson is still undergoing treatments to strengthen his immune system.

Karen Hallmark has improved but continues to struggle and could use our prayers. She had an infection this past week.

Dinah Williams is at home and continues to have mobility issues.

Don Simmons is home and still struggling with his breathing; he is on oxygen at all times. **Alene** is having hip issues.

John Miller (Dyanne Turner's brother) is under treatment for cancer.

Andrea Ayers is recovering from surgery on her jaw.

Randall Vanaman is recovering from a heart stent.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

"praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,"
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

Darrell Trammel
512-756-4493 Office
Darrell@
oakswestchurchofChrist.com

Elders

George Gresham
Jim Johnson
Darrell Trammel

Contact Us

Address:
P.O. Box 675
Burnet, TX 78611

Call:
(512) 756-4493

E-Mail:
oakswestchurch@gmail.com

Website:
oakswestchurchofchrist.com