

He Gets Us.

Jesus wants to get closer to me. So I draw closer to God.

June 26, 2022 Message Notes

TEXT: EPHESIANS 1:17-19a, 3:16-17a

When you go through struggles, do you keep them to yourself or do you reach out to supportive people that can help you? Maybe you doubt, worry, or even rationalize that something or someone can help at all – including God. But he does want you to reach out to him and let him get close to you.



NOTES

Step 11: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understand him, praying only for the knowledge of his will and the power to carry it out.

“I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you...”

EPHESIANS 1:17-19a NIV

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...”

EPHESIANS 3:16-17a NIV

Jesus wants to get closer to me. So, I get closer to God.

How can you and I have a growing personal relationship with God?

We find time to **connect** with Christ, to learn to trust the Gospel, and start to live as a disciple daily.

As we grow in relationship with Christ by walking with Him, His Spirit of wisdom and revelation will help us know him better.

He is there at every moment, especially in our most challenging ones, to help us at the crossroads or at those breaking points where we do not see a way out.

It is important to know **what** we put our trust in, because it matters now and in the end.

If we choose to trust Him during the difficult moments, then we will grow our faith and understand His will better.

We have to set aside pride, previous experiences, and things that are causing us to distance ourselves from the Father.

“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”

JAMES 4:10

How can I seek and know God's will?

It is difficult to understand or see God's will when we are going through difficult times. Especially when we leave Christ out of it or the community He has given us as a support.



We doubt, worry, or even rationalize that something or someone can help (other than God).

Through our circumstances the Holy Spirit, His Word, prayer, and the community around us are there to help us grow in understanding His will for our lives.

When we pray, He answers.

How can I find power for life change?

Sometimes we feel like God has given us more than we can bear. That lie is what the enemy wants us to feel.

On our own, we cannot handle things – not in our own strength. It's only because of the power of Christ that lives in us that we are able to remain standing.

Prayer and meditation, as we focus on **His** power, creates an opportunity to grow through the pain.

Keeping on is a **daily** faith battle and struggle that we can win with Christ. His Spirit meets us with what we need to overcome.

How did Jesus overcome?

He connected with the Father, prayed and received the power of the Holy Spirit.

Though He was divine in every way – from birth to death to life again – Jesus would still go to His Father, and His Spirit would help Jesus to step into the Father's will.

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

JAMES 1:12 NIV

Christ took on all of the pain so that we can be blessed as we persevere. He stood the test so that we can receive the crown of life, as promised.

Jesus overcame and can help us overcome, as we grow closer to the Father and allow the Holy Spirit to empower us.

When you go through struggles, don't do it alone; find a supportive community of believers that will point to Jesus in your hard times.



Stay connected to God, to His will and to His power – through His Word, His Spirit, and Christian community in worship and discipleship.

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