

Lesson 12 – Developing Your Friendship With God

Proverbs 3:32; James 4:8

You are as close to God as you choose to be. Like any friendship you must work at developing your friendship with God. It won't happen by accident. It takes desire, time and energy.

1. To develop your friendship with God you must choose to be honest with God.

a) Why does God want us to be honest with Him?

b) Can you give examples from the Bible where God allowed His people to be honest even when it hurt?

c) Can God handle true honesty from us when it includes anger, resentment and disappointment?

Ps. 142:2-3

2. To develop your friendship with God you must choose to obey God in faith. Every time you trust God's wisdom and do whatever He says, even when you don't understand it, you deepen your friendship with God.

- a) Can you be a friend of God by being obedient? Jn. 15:14

We are friends with God, but we are not His equals. He is our loving leader, and we follow Him.

We obey God, not out of duty, fear or compassion, but because we love Him and trust that He knows what is best for us.
Jn. 15:9-11

- b) Why do simple acts of obedience have such importance?
God treasures simple acts of obedience. I Sam. 15:22

- 3) To develop our friendship with God we must choose to value what God values.

- a) Do you care about the things God cares about?
2 Cor. 11:2; Ps. 69:9

- b) What does God care about the most?

- 4) To develop your friendship with God we must desire friendship with God more than anything else.

David passionately desired this relationship with God.
Ps. 27:4; Ps. 63:3

a) What things are you truly passionate about? Fishing, golf, internet, tennis, etc.

b) How did Paul express his desire for God? Phil. 3:10

You can be as close to God as you choose to be.

c) What price would you pay to get close to God? What would you not be willing to give up for God?

5) Have you lost your passion for God?

Rekindle the fire, pay the price.