

# REAL WITH GOD: COMMUNION WITH GOD

**But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. *John 4:23 ESV***

## **WORSHIPING THE FATHER**

**God Is \_\_\_\_\_ Worshipers**

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. *John 4:23-24 ESV*

What Is Worship?

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. *Romans 11:36-12:2 ESV*

Worship = \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

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## **GLORY**

**WHAT CENTERS OUR EXISTENCE**

**WHAT GIVES US PURPOSE, IDENTITY AND MEANING**

**WHAT WE SEEK TO SATISFY OURSELVES WITH**

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## **SACRIFICE**

**CHOOSING ONE THING INSTEAD OF ANOTHER**

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## **IDOLS**

**MAKING A GOOD THING AN ULTIMATE THING**

**WORSHIPPING CREATION INSTEAD OF CREATOR**

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For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. *Romans 1:18-25 ESV*

# LOVING THE SON

## Love In Obedience And Obedience In Love

We obey secure in the love of God

We obey because we love God

We love because He first loved us

## Love \_\_\_\_\_ By Obedience

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” *John 14:15 ESV*

Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” *John 14:23 ESV*

Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. *1 John 2:4-6 ESV*

## Our Love For One Another \_\_\_\_\_ Our Love For God

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. *1 John 1:7 ESV*

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. *John 13:34-35 ESV*

By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. *1 John 3:10 ESV*

## Love \_\_\_\_\_ By Obedience

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

*Romans 5:6-11 ESV*

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God... *John 1:12 ESV*

## Our Love For God

And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.” *Matthew 22:37-38 ESV*

## LIVING BY THE SPIRIT

### Empowering – Giving \_\_\_\_\_ And Enabling \_\_\_\_\_

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. **John 6:63 ESV**

For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **Romans 8:13 ESV**

### Illumination – Knowing God Through \_\_\_\_\_

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. **Psalms 119:18 ESV**

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might... **Ephesians 1:16-19 ESV**

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. **John 16:13 ESV**

### Sanctification – Living \_\_\_\_\_ According To The Spirit

“Regeneration makes man’s heart a battlefield, where ‘the flesh’ (the old man) tirelessly disputes the supremacy of ‘the spirit’ (the new man).”<sup>1</sup>

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **Romans 8:5-13 ESV**

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. **Galatians 5:16-25 ESV**

### Prayer – \_\_\_\_\_ with God

The Spirit teaches us to pray

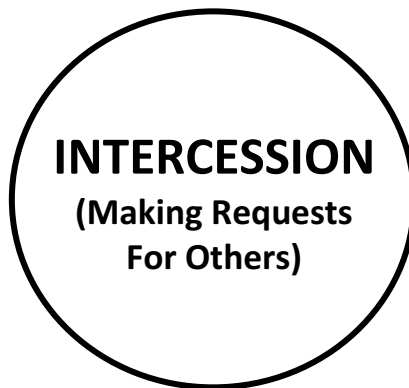
Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. **Romans 8:26 ESV**

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The Lord's Prayer begins with "Our Father": This recognition encourages confidence in the efficacy of prayer, strengthens weak faith, and assures us that we approach God as an overflowing giver rather than demanding tyrant.<sup>2</sup>

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## DIFFERENT TYPES OF PRAYER<sup>3</sup>



**"[Prayer] Means Praying According To The Word Of God, On The Basis Of Promises"<sup>4</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> J. I. Packer, "The Spirituality of John Owen" in *Among God's Giants* (Eastbourne, England: Kingsway Publications, 1991), 258

<sup>2</sup> Mark Rodgers, "'Deliver Us from the Evil One': Martin Luther on Prayer" in *Themelios*, 34(3), 35-347 (Accessed online: <http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/publications/34-3/deliver-us-from-the-evil-one-martin-luther-on-prayer>)

<sup>3</sup> Adapted from Ken Boa, *Face to Face: Praying the Scriptures for Intimate Worship* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1997), vii

<sup>4</sup> Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together* (New York, NY: Harper & Row, 1954), 49