Faith Matters



Daily Devotional, Wednesday, April 26, 2017 - Intimacy With God

APRIL 26TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Romans 8:14-17

Suppose I asked you to characterize your relationship with God. Would you say He is like a friend whom you meet occasionally for coffee? Or is He at the opposite end of the spectrum—a valued member of your household who is included in every aspect of daily life? Most likely, the nature of your bond falls somewhere in between.

Whatever the state of your relationship with the Lord, be assured that He wants something closer and more meaningful. God desires a connection so deep and strong that words like *friendship* and *fellowship* cannot fully describe it. He created us for intimacy.

Of all the creatures on earth, human beings are the only ones made in God's image. Like Him, we can think, reason, feel, and make choices, though we do none of these things as fully or perfectly as He does. The attributes that separate people from the rest of creation equip us to relate to the Lord in a unique way.

Jesus called His followers "friends" (John 15:15), and Paul wrote that believers are sons of God (Gal. 4:7). Those are not distant, impersonal relationships! When we spend time with the Lord, we grow as close to Him as a beloved child to a father.

Some believers have the mistaken idea that *doing* something "Christian" is the way to make God happy. But the way to please our Father is by *being* Christian. He wants us to

live in such a way that others see He is our Father and best friend.

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