

Outline – June 4, 2023
John 1:10-14; Revelation 2:1-4, 3:15-20
A Relationship With God

The Most Important Aspect of Life
Relationships

- I. Why is Relationship so Important**
 - A. We were “wired” for relationship
 - 1. First with God
 - 2. Second with family
 - 3. With others
 - B. How we relate to God, impacts all other relationships

- II. Our Problem is We Don’t Understand How Important Relating to God Really is**
 - A. Ever wanted to take a relationship to another level?
 - B. Ever wanted to get closer to your kids or parents?
 - C. Ever wanted to have a closer connection in marriage?
 - D. Everyone was polite, and respectful, but distant, and restricted
 - E. We often “stiff arm” God

- III. A Letter to Two Churches (Ephesus and Laodicea)**
 - A. Ephesus
 - 1. Did good things
 - 2. Had sound doctrine
 - 3. Had good pastors
 - 4. But lost their love for Jesus
 - B. Laodicea
 - 1. Rich
 - 2. Powerful
 - 3. Resourceful
 - 4. Put Jesus out
 - C. They had lost their connection, attachment, fellowship

- IV. How Do We Lose Our Fellowship (7 ways)**
 - A. Pride
 - B. Affluence
 - C. Ignorance of life’s principles
 - D. Expectations not met
 - E. Apathy- stop caring
 - F. Blinded by Satan
 - G. We limit our experiences of God

1. We embrace religion as an empty substitute for connecting with God
2. Go thru the motions

V. The Danger of Lost Fellowship

- A. You become a stranger
- B. You forget what is important to God, and to you
- C. You lose your purpose, your passion, your potential

VI. The 10 Things Needed for a Relationship with God

- A. People who know Messiah pouring their lives into you
 1. Being willing to:
 - Receive it
 - Apply it
 - Give it
 - Grow in it
 2. Discipleship
- B. Prayer- ask, seek, knock
 1. Being real
 2. Being honest
- C. Problem solving using
 1. Word of God
 2. People of God
 3. Spirit of God
 4. Counsel of God
- D. Pursuing God
 - A Definition of wickedness
 1. No pursuit of God
 2. No time for God
 3. No thought of God
 4. No tenderness for God
 5. No thankfulness to God
- E. Time with God (private, public, personal)
 1. People can tell where you've been
 2. Who you've been with
- F. Transparent with God
 1. Be open
 2. Be honest
 3. No formula: Be Real
- G. Tractable
 1. Yielding
 2. Submissive

- H. Love
 - 1. Is a choice
 - 2. Is a reality
- I. Hope
- J. Faith

VII. The Great Invitation

- A. If anyone
- B. Hears My Voice
- C. Opens the door
- D. I will come in
- E. Dine with them
- F. Them with Me
- G. Sit with Me on My throne

You Can Be in Relationship with God

It's a choice

It's a response

It's a blessing

It brings reward