

How to grow a relationship

1

"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.**"
Ephesians 1:17

2

God with Us



A mature disciple
loves God

John 14:15-31 ref.ly/Jn14;niv

3

The purpose of John's Gospel

"Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that **Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God**, and that **by believing** you may have life in his name."

John 20:30-31

4

John 14:15-21

¹⁵ “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

5

John 14:22

²² Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”

6

John 14:23-24

²³ Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will **obey my teaching**. **My Father will love them** and we will come to them and **make our home with them**." ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

7

John 14:25-27

²⁵ "All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will **teach you all things** and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

8

John 14:28-31

²⁸ "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. ³⁰ I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me, ³¹ but he comes so that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

"Come now; let us leave.

9

The Big Idea

**God truly (and only) comes
to those who submit in love to Jesus**

10

Submit in love to the Father and the Son

Not merely a spiritual or emotional alignment

- Rather: actual obedience

Not a slavish attitude

- Rather: Eager conformity to the will of God
- It is possible to obey without loving
- **It is impossible to love without obeying**

Not perfect obedience

- Submit to Jesus and His teaching
- Confession and repentance are key

11

If you love...

12

Loving God requires eager submission

- obeying what He commands
- confessing and turning when we don't

13

The Big Idea

**God truly (and only) comes
to those who submit in love to Jesus**

**God selectively reveals Himself
and opens Himself
to the people who submit to Him**

14

What should we do?

Submit in love to Jesus

- Know what He teaches and commands
- And enthusiastically pursue it!
- Confession/repentance is key to submission
- Humbly asking: What needs to change now?

“This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. In fact, **this is love for God: to keep his commands.** And his commands are **not burdensome...**” 1 John 5:2-3

15

What should we do?

Submit in love to Jesus

Be in awe of the presence of God in us

16

The Spirit in us:

- The Spirit “lives with you and will be in you.” 14:17

Jesus is in us:

- “I will come to you...you will see me...
I am in you.” 14:18, 19, 20

The Father is in us:

- “My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.” 14:23

If we submit in love to Jesus

17

Jesus is our model...

- “[The evil one] comes so that the world may learn that **I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.**” John 14:31
- “We love because he first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

18

*Whoever has my commands and
keep them is the one who loves me.
The one who loves me will be loved
by my Father, and I too will
love them and show myself to them.”*
John 14:21