



Remembering the Forgotten God Leader Guide Session 5: A Real Relationship

Group Discussion:

1. Before you go further, honestly describe your relationship with God. Be descriptive – how does your relationship feel, how do you maintain it, and so on?

Read Galatians 4:1-7

2. Think about this imagery. What is the difference between a slave and a son? List some differences between the two. (For example, what treatment does each receive? What privileges does each have? How does each feel? What confidence does each have?)

Read Galatians 4:6. The term “Abba” was the most endearing way to address a father. The modern equivalent would be the word “Daddy”.

3. What is the significance of Paul’s statement here? How should it affect your relationship with God to know that He sent the Holy Spirit into your heart to cry out “Abba!”?
4. Most of us experience situations where our guilt or perfectionism keeps us from enjoying intimacy with God. In times like these, how should the truth of Romans 8:15-17 restore our intimacy with God? How do you feel about the truth?
5. Most of us tend to take relationships for granted, but what is it that makes close personal relationships so incredible?

No matter how close you may feel with another human being, the potential for intimacy with the Holy Spirit is always greater. Close friends may stick by your side no matter what, but the Holy Spirit actually lives inside of you!

In John 14, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as the “Helper” or “Comforter”. Though it is a reassuring thought to have a Helper and Comforter on hand, many of us have made our lives so comfortable and “safe” that we don’t need to be comforted. Usually, it’s not until an unexpected tragedy strikes that we feel uncomfortable.

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6. Have you ever found yourself in a place where you absolutely needed the Spirit to help or comfort you? If so, what was it like and how did the Spirit comfort you?
7. If you answered no to that question (or if you had to think about it awhile), do you think you should consider living a more radical life where you need the Spirit to come through? Why, or why not?
8. When was the last time you sat quietly with nothing at all to distract you? What was that like?
9. List some things that distract you from a real relationship with God.
10. Which of those things do you need to get rid of or back off on in order to pursue intimacy with God?
How can you do this?

The most important reason to pursue a relationship with the Spirit of God is that Jesus gave His life so that you could pursue one. As Paul explained, “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us... so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith” (Gal. 3:13-14)

11. Are you guilty of taking the Holy Spirit for granted? If so, how can you begin to reverse that trend in your life?
12. Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to draw you closer to Himself. Pray that His Holy Spirit would increase your intimacy as a child of the living God.