

DEEPENING YOUR WALK WITH THE LORD

Sylvester Onyemalechi

It is God's desire to be really close to His children and workers in His vineyard. He has provided for such a close relationship with His children and co-laborers. But unfortunately, many do not think it right and necessary to be intimate with the Lord and Savior of our souls. Those who realize it is necessary are not able to organize themselves well and create time for God; they still allow their jobs, business and family activities to get in the way and stop them from being real close to God.

Having served the Lord for some time now it is important that you evaluate your relationship with God and see areas where you have slacked and make up your mind and do the right thing. It is important that you judge your walk with God and reposition yourself for God.

Rev 2:1-7

2:1 "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: 2 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. 5 Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6 But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

NIV

1 Cor 11:31-32

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

KJV

Check your life right now and see how you have been walking with and working for God.

1. Do you have quiet time with God despite your busy schedule?
2. Do you read and meditate on the word of God daily without fail?
3. Do you fear God and apply His word in every area of your life?
4. How many times do you fast in a month for your spiritual development and strengthening?
5. Do you tithe regularly without being reminded or forced?
6. Do you enjoy giving to God and spending yourself to see to it that the work of God is done successfully?
7. Do you still enjoy serving the Lord as you did when you first started?

8. Do you consider yourself as being as committed as you use to be when you first started to work for the Lord?
9. The gifts of the Holy Spirit that started manifesting in your life a long time when you started to serve the Lord seriously are they still manifesting in your life. If no, why?
10. Do you still have respect for God's servants and your leaders?
11. Is there improvement in your character and lifestyle?
12. How do you really rate yourself spiritually?

STEPS TO DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

1. Repent of your failures and decide to be intimate with God.
2. Be committed to your decision to be intimate with God.
3. Spend time daily with God alone.
 - Make time no matter how busy you are.
 - Early morning is better – you start the day with God.
 - Night time could be better for those who have more time at night than in the mornings.
 - Those on shift should make time depending on the shift they are in daily.
 - It is not a must you must have a fixed time of prayer and meeting with God.
 - Fixed time of prayer helps one to be committed to meeting with God, and sometime, can be a problem when job or pursuit of career makes it impossible to keep. The important thing is that you find time to meet with God daily.
4. Make it a point of duty to daily read and study the word of God.
5. Invest in books, teaching tapes and CDs that will enrich your spiritual life.
 - Develop a reading habit.
 - Get a walkman tape player or CD player so you can listen to the word of God when walking or on a journey.
 - Commit yourself to studying.

Prov 23:23

23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

KJV

2 Tim 2:15

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

KJV

Prov 4:4-9

4 he taught me and said,

"Lay hold of my words with all your heart;

keep my commands and you will live.

5 Get wisdom, get understanding;

do not forget my words or swerve from them.

6 Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you;

love her, and she will watch over you.

7 Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom.

Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

8 Esteem her, and she will exalt you;

embrace her, and she will honor you.

9 She will set a garland of grace on your head

and present you with a crown of splendor."

NIV

- 6.** Fast and pray from time to time to exercise or strengthen yourself spiritually.
- 7.** Be active in the house of God.
- 8.** Be committed to the assignment God has given you in His house no matter what challenges you may face.
- 9.** Show discipline and maturity in the things of God by being punctual, active for God, humble, dependable, respectful, and obedient to God and your leaders.
- 10.** Always sing and make melody in your heart to God for this is pleasing to God and enhances your being filled with the Holy Spirit all the time.
- 11.** Pray and sing in the Spirit regularly.
- 12.** Enjoy God's presence.
- 13.** Promptly obey God each time He speaks to you.
- 14.** Give your all without reservation to God in love.

If you will do all of these, you will discover that your relationship with God is deepening by the day. This calls for sincerity and hard work. Go to work now and do not delay. The Lord bless you.