

LEARNING TO LIVE IN GOD'S PRESENCE

September 24, 2017 Psalm 24:4, 8 by Bob Branch
Building A Deeper Life In A Shallow World, part 3

"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." **John 17:3**
(Phil. 3:10; Eph. 1:17; Rev. 3:20)

BIG IDEA: Cultivating a deep friendship connection with God will mean a retraining of our souls—beyond Sunday morning and into a self-feeding, enjoyable relationship with the God who loves you.

"One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple... My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, LORD, I will seek." **Psalm 27:4, 8**

"One thing I ask"

1. **To live consistently in God's presence, we must PRIORITIZE it, state it, remind ourselves of it, and build our lives around it.** (Matt. 6:33)

"I want to dwell in the house of the Lord".

2. **To go deeper with God, we will need to routinely PLACE OURSELVES in his presence—the place where God is.**

Where? And When?

"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." **Mark 1:35**

"I want to gaze on God's beauty"

3. **To go deeper with God (and build a deeper life) we must learn to LINGER in God's presence.**

"She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said." **Luke 10:39**

"Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper."

1 Kings 19:11-12

4. **The goal is to KNOW HIM, and enjoy your relationship with him—listening to and learning from him, thanking and worshipping him.**

Philippians 3:10; Ephesians 1:17

By doing this we are "being rooted and established in love... to know this love that surpasses knowledge ... be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

Ephesians 3:17-19

THE RESULT: A softening of heart (unto greater Christlikeness), **which impacts our relationships with everyone and everything** (God, others, self, work, creation)