

How is the
Relationship
with
your
FATHER?

An Epistle
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How is the Relationship with YOUR FATHER?

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This book is dedicated to the all-knowing God who provided the inspiration for the words that will alter lives. This work could not have been done without His favor and inspiration.

How is the Relationship with your FATHER!

The above statement poses a question to our hearts, and the truth of all is that it should not be a question for anyone to worry about or think about for a second to give an answer. Right from when we are young, we know what the word father means and what it means to be a father.

A good father truly cares for his children and makes them not worry in life. He cares so much to know what we are thinking or what we want next, and whenever we see our father, we are at peace and want to spend our time asking a series of questions. This is one case of a typical happy family home, of which I believe we are all part. Our earthly father cares so much for us that his life activities focus on us; he works for us to live a good life and provides for us in all possible ways.

As children, we don't know what the issues of life mean because all have been taken care of by our earthly father, and we don't think about tomorrow because that has been taken care of as well. In return for all our earthly father is doing for us, all he wants is for us to be open, to commune, and to

feel free to share anything with him. This is not because our father is lonely or doesn't have anything to do with his own life, but because he wants us to live a peaceful life.

Jesus says in Mathew 7:11 ***“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!”***

It's quite obvious to us that our heavenly fathers know all we need, and He is waiting for us to ask him. It's quite easy for our earthly father to reject the request of anyone who asked him for something he couldn't freely give. **For example**, some people walked up to him and said, I need you to give me a car next week. Your dad will think the person is mentally unstable or that he wants to enchant him. He won't bother himself to ask further questions or seek to know why the person wants a car. The message obviously comes as a request and not like he is seeking help.

There is no other reason for him to reject that request other than that he has no relationship with that person, and even though there is a

relationship, there is no intimacy that can warrant the request to be granted without any query.

Intimacy is the key to departing from the life of bondage and entering the life of abundance with God. Intimacy with God is the close and personal relationship that a person has with God and it is based on trust, love, and devotion.

The Bible makes us to understand that God desires to have a close and intimate relationship with each of us. In fact, Jesus referred to God as "Abba," which means "Father" or "Daddy." This is a term of endearment that expresses a close and loving relationship between a parent and a child. We trust our earthly father, love him unconditionally, and are loyal to him when we are children. We relied on him for everything and loved him, but as we were growing, we started hearing from others about their father. Many are not as lucky as we are because they don't experience the same love and peace we did.

These troubling news makes us worry, and it keeps disturbing our mind to the extent that we don't want to be dependent on our father anymore, and we tried as much as we could to be

careful for our father not to be like others. A few years passed, and we noticed a change in our relationship with our earthly father. We kept some things to ourselves and believe we can handle it on our own. We believe we are getting independence from our earthly father, and we can now live as we like.

Many of us miss it when we think we are independent in life and we can journey without God, who knows it all. We think that the only thing we can ask God for is to provide for whatever we request from him, and all our prayers are all about requesting *bread and chicken*. As many of us reject the request of a stranger for many reasons known to us, but our heavenly father doesn't reject our request because he has already granted us everything, and since we are not in a relationship, we don't even know what we need at that time.

Intimacy with God is non-negotiable for several reasons. First and foremost, it is the key to a fulfilling and meaningful life and when we have a deep and intimate relationship with God, we experience a sense of peace, joy, and purpose that cannot be found anywhere else. We are able to

trust God completely and rely on Him for guidance and strength in every situation. It's not about asking Him for bread but to engage with Abba in deep conversation. We are to be partaker of His agenda on earth and to follow him without any other second thought.

Intimacy with God is necessary for our spiritual growth and development and when we spend time in prayer, worship, and studying the Bible, we deepen our understanding of God's character and His will for our lives. This, in turn, helps us to grow in our faith and become more like Christ. Furthermore, intimacy with God is essential for our protection from the evil of this age. The devil is always seeking to deceive and lead people astray, but when we have a close relationship with God, we are better equipped to recognize and resist his temptations.

How can we develop intimacy with God?

1. The first step is to give all your time for him. Just as we make time for our family and friends, we need to prioritize our relationship with God. This means setting

aside time each day to pray, read the Bible, and worship Him.

2. We also need to be intentional about seeking God's presence. We must be intentional and diligent Bible students. Whatever our situation looks like, we need to seek out opportunities to draw near to God. Joseph in the dungeon never lost his relationship with God. Therefore, our problems shouldn't break our intimacy with Yahweh.
3. We are to be open and honest with Him. Being open entails sharing our joys, fears, doubts, and struggles with Him, knowing that He loves us unconditionally and wants to help us. We will experience God's grace and mercy in unimaginable ways as we open up to Him and allow Him to work in our lives.

Intimacy with God is an awesome and non-negotiable part of the believer's journey of faith, and it's quite essential for our personal fulfillment, spiritual growth, and protection from

the devil. We must give our time to God, seek His presence, and be honest and vulnerable with him so that we can deepen our relationship with him and experience the abundant life that He has promised.

Should I now give up my leisure time to seek God?

You can never be bored with God, and spending time in His presence is worth more than Netflix series. Fellowship with God is more important than the time you spend surfing the internet, because nations depend on you more than you depend on social media updates to know what is trending. You will surely enjoy heaven on earth when you subscribe to seeking Him. The eternal life He promised us starts on earth, and we start to enjoy it right here before we ascend to meet the triumphant armies in heaven.

When God reveals a mystery to you and you wait patiently to see it, you will marvel and realize the revelations of God are ever-trending. He knows the end from the beginning. Therefore, our relationship with God is not to ask for bread and

groundnuts but to *be partakers of what God is doing in this generation.*

In **2 Corinthians 5:18–20**, Apostle Paul writes about our relationship with God and the role we play in reconciling others to Him. This passage offers valuable insights into how we can strengthen our relationship with God and become effective ambassadors of His love and grace.

Firstly, Paul emphasizes the importance of being reconciled to God ourselves. He writes, "***All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation***" (2 Corinthians 5:18). In other words, we cannot be effective ambassadors of reconciliation if we are not first reconciled to God ourselves. Reconciliation is not just to go and tell the world about Christ without us knowing Him experientially. We are to know Christ experientially and be a true witness to Him. Therefore, to strengthen our relationship with God, we need to start by accepting His offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. This means acknowledging our sin and our need for a

Savior and trusting in Christ's death and resurrection as the only way to be reconciled to God. As we grow in our understanding and appreciation of what Christ has done for us, our love and devotion for God will naturally increase.

Secondly, Apostle Paul highlights the responsibility we have as ambassadors of Christ. He writes, "*We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God*" (2 Corinthians 5:20). As ambassadors, we are called to represent Christ to the world and to help others find reconciliation with God. To be effective ambassadors, we need to have a strong and vibrant relationship with God. This means spending time with Him in prayer, reading His Word, and seeking His will for our lives. As we grow in our knowledge of God and love for Him, we will be better equipped to share His message of reconciliation with others.

As believers, *we are not just to live but to live a purposeful life*, and strengthening one's relationship with God is essential for living a fulfilling and purposeful life. Therefore, the

ministry of reconciliation is not for specific people but for all believers. The apostle Paul emphasizes the importance of reconciliation and sharing the message of Christ with others, and by following these principles, we can deepen our relationship with God and make a positive impact on the world around us.

This reconciliation is a gift from God, and we are called to receive it and live in its fullness. We are called to be ambassadors of Christ, representing Him to the world around us, and this means that we have a responsibility to share the message of reconciliation with others, so that they too may experience the love and grace of God.

Once we have received this gift, we must live in the fullness of it. This means surrendering our lives to God and allowing Him to transform us from the inside out. We must seek to grow in our understanding of God's character and His will for our lives, and we must strive to live in obedience to Him.

We are to continually proclaim the message of Christ with our words and *demonstrate His love through our actions*. We must be intentional

about building relationships with those around us, and we must seek to share the message of Christ with them in a way that is both clear and compassionate.

Another important aspect of strengthening our relationship with God is living a *life of integrity*. As ambassadors of Christ, *we must seek to live in a way that is consistent with the message we proclaim*. This means being honest, humble, and compassionate in our interactions with others and seeking to glorify God in everything we do.

Our Lord Jesus Christ says, "*If you love me, keep my commands*" (John 14:15). We are to continually seek the face of the Father and keep His commandments.

- Church attendance is not the same as intimacy with Christ.
- Church activities are not the same as having a relationship with Christ.
- Paying tithes and freewill offerings is not in any way equivalent to the relationship Christ desires.
- Participating in a crusade is not more important than the relationship Jesus wants.

All of the above helps us strengthen our relationship with Jesus, but above all, he wants a personal relationship with Him. If you cannot stay for hours in His presence but you can stay for hours in church activities, then there is something wrong in your relationship with him. ***Prayers in a secret place shouldn't be time-bound***, and we are to enjoy staying with Him alone more than when we have the luxury of sounds and choir ministrations that can keep us for hours in church.

By following this inspired epistle, we can deepen our relationship with God and make a positive impact on the world around us. In everything we do and engage in in life, let us sustain consciousness to put God first, and this will deepen our relationship with him. ***Proverbs 3:5–6 says: Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.***

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ibrahim Adeshola is an experienced multidisciplinary researcher who has had work published in prestigious journals. He has an in-depth knowledge of a variety of research fields, including management information systems, educational technology, marketing, cloud computing, organizational management, business and environmental sustainability, technological innovation, renewable energy, organizational culture, and business development.

He has been lecturing at the university level for more than six years and has sound teaching skills in information technology, management information systems, educational technology, and computer science-related courses.

He is an ad hoc reviewer for top-tier academic journals, and the majority of his publications are in top-tier academic journals. He has had the opportunity to lecture in a multicultural environment and collaborate with researchers from various countries over the years. He is a top-rated career coach, educational consultant, and website developer.

Above all, he is a witness of our Lord Jesus, who is passionate to spread the good news and bring the light of God to the inhabitants of the earth.

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