

A Close Relationship

John and Jesus

1. Twelve Disciples
2. Inner Three: Peter, James and John
3. Beloved Disciple John 13:23; John 19:26; John 21:7; John 21:20
 - John has a very close relationship with Jesus
 - Likely to have been reflective and meditative and poetic—love of imagery and emotion.

Cultivate a close relationship with Jesus

Hearing the Voice of Jesus

The sheep follow the Shepherd because they know His voice in contrast to the voices of religion John 10:4

Get to know his unique voice

Revelation 1

- Jesus speaks to John
- John hears the voice of Jesus
- How does he hear the voice of Jesus?
 - As he worships 1:5b-8
 - Suffers 1:9
 - Is in the Spirit 1:10
- What does he do?
 - He turns and sees Jesus 1:12-20
 - He receives Prophetic Messages for the seven Churches Ch 2,3
 - He obeys by writing them down

Invitation to greater Intimacy

- Revelation 4:1—Come up here and I will show you what must take place...”
- How did he “come up here”?
- At once he was in the Spirit 4:2
- And he saw the throne and someone sitting on it!
- He was given sight of the unseen glories of the presence of God and struggles to find language and imagery to describe the indescribable
- He was shown the implications of God’s completely Sovereign Glory and the reassurance it would bring to him and the Churches
- John responded in worship! 22:8

Be ready for God to reveal Himself to you

Let’s look at our relationship with God...

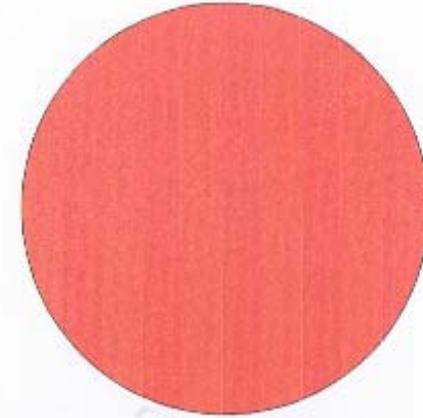
Can you identify your “Red Dot”?

- Without pretence or “ought to be” identify where you are right now in your relationship with God
- Write a sentence *honestly* telling God what your Red Dot is
- How do you see God at this moment?
- What are the blockages to truly relating with Him?
- Tell Him of your genuine, longing to love Him and know him more than anything/anyone.
- Hear his “you are my beloved” in your heart.

Relationship Growing

- Enjoyable Prayer
- Beautiful Prayer - John 12:1-3

Every journey begins



Where you are

Engaging Prayer

- What are you doing God and how do I/we get in on it?
- What is your will and purpose?

Listening Prayer

- Silence, attending to Jesus

Obedience Prayer

- Carrying out His instructions!

Taking such prayer into the world

- Walking with God
- Seeing what he shows you
- Listen to the prompting of the Spirit—what to pray
- Pray it!
- Worship it!