

This evening I would like us (for a few minutes) to muse upon the prayer lives of a few eminent saints of old, who BECAME very close to God.

You've heard me speak of HOW we ought to PRAY OFTEN and ALSO what should be the embodiment and fullness of our prayers to our Father which art in heaven.

In our prayers we should be drawing closer to our Father and God, we should be becoming closer and more intimate with Him; we should be "telling Him our hearts" and pouring our hearts out to Him, our fears, our besetting sins, our spiritual weaknesses, our sorrows, and yes, our prayers for our lost loved ones.

But how often do we enjoy "prayer communion" with God?

And what I mean by that is, we come to a place in which we may actually call God our CLOSEST FRIEND, and we speak thus to Him like that. Of course, we must always remember that we are speaking to the "High and Lofty One, whose Name is Holy"; but still, do you go into your prayer closet and open your heart up to your Heavenly Father?

It ought to hurt us (bother us) to KNOW that we might speak more intimately and closely to a human best friend... and that we tell them more of our concerns and cares than we do to our Heavenly Father!

Beloved, if WHEN WE PRAY, we are only asking God for this sick person and that lost person, we're not becoming closer to God, we're ONLY bringing our requests to Him, (and while there is nothing wrong with bring our requests to God), if that is ALL we do when we pray, we are really missing out on the richness, spiritual manna, and comfort of intimate prayer-communion with our Father! Listen to how God spoke of Jacob, Moses, and Abraham:

Genesis 32:24-30, Exodus 33:7-11, Numbers 12:1-8, James 2:23

Two godly women:

Luke 1:26-56

Listen to this prayer-praise-communion language of these dear saints of old, who were (in their time) what we should be (IN OUR TIME). Don't you want a relationship like THIS with God? Like these saints had with their Father and their God? Don't you want to walk with God like this?

Ephesians 1:15-23, 3:14-21

Let me end by saying, I am NOT saying to NOT bring your petitions and your requests to the Lord for your loved ones and sick friends:

What I AM saying is, IF THAT is ALL you're doing, you're MISSING the primary objective of intimate prayer unto your Heavenly Father!

Just read Matthew 6:9-15