

## **DISCIPLESHIP COURSE**

### **PART IV: DAILY COMMUNION**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** 1 John 1:1-7; John 15:1-8; Eph. 5:21-32; Amos 3:3

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 1:7

**PURPOSE:** To understand what **daily communion** with Jesus really is. To understand the importance of daily communion with Him and how to cultivate this daily communion.

**LESSON:** By far the most important of all the areas of this discipleship course is this lesson before us. It is absolutely essential that we understand this principle and apply it. For it is on the principle of "daily communion" that all our Christian experience will be built. In fact, it could be said that if we miss it here we have missed it altogether, for this IS CHRISTIANITY and TRUE DISCIPLESHIP.

#### **I. WHAT IS DAILY COMMUNION:**

- A. Two (2) Greek words will help us summarize "communion". They are "MENO" and "KOINONIA".
1. "MENO" means to "ABIDE"; "DWELL"; "LIVE"; "CONTINUE"; "RESIDE"; "TARRY"; and "VITALLY UNITED".
  2. "KOINONIA" means "FELLOWSHIP"; "A COMMON SHARING WITH ANOTHER"; "TO BE A PARTNER"; "TO BE A PARTAKER";
  3. All this indicates that one who is a disciple will "live" or "dwell" "vitaly united" in "fellowship" with the Lord Jesus Christ as a "partner" with Him in this life and throughout eternity.
- B. In JOHN 15, Jesus indicates that this type of relationship will exist between HIS disciples and HIMSELF. In fact, He definitely states that anyone (a branch) cut off or severed from HIM will not bear fruit and is withered and cast into the fire.
1. Therefore we have Christianity as more than just a belief, a doctrine, or a religion. It is a VITAL UNION or CONNECTION with ANOTHER (Jesus). It is to DWELL IN HIM, TO ABIDE IN HIM, TO RESIDE IN HIM and to have a common sharing of life or PARTNERSHIP with HIM that is so strong that even DEATH cannot break it.
  2. The result of such a COMMON SHARING is that WE share our lives with HIM and HE shares HIS life with US. It is in this process of daily living that we become PARTNERS.
  3. This is what TRUE CHRISTIANITY is, building up and cultivating a personal relationship, a closeness, an intimate friendship and a love for Jesus that is literally out of this world.
  4. We carry on a daily communion and conversation with HIM, a sharing of our burdens, trials, problems, worries, fears, joys, life, anything and everything. He helps us in these daily affairs and uses these to teach us and to grow us up in our relationship with HIM. In turn HE shares with us HIS desires, HIS will and purpose in all the affairs of our lives, in others and the world. MY! What a relationship and partnership is developed. DO YOU HAVE AND ENJOY SUCH A RELATIONSHIP?
  5. This type of relationship is illustrated for us in several places throughout the New Testament but perhaps most graphically in Eph. 5: 21-32 where the apostle Paul uses marriage as an example. The close intimacy of a HUSBAND and WIFE who share one another, their life, joy, happiness, trials, problems, successes and failures etc. together.
  6. The relationship cultivated does not grow stale and become a burden as a dry dead religious doctrine or theology but continues to grow and develop until HIS love for us and OUR love for HIM becomes so intimate and real that the things of the WORLD loose all their holds on us and we only live for HIM and HEAVEN.
- C. Why is daily communion with the LORD so important?
1. It is the very source of our life. (John 15:4-6)
  2. It is the very source of our fruitfulness. (John 15:4-5; & 8)
  3. It is the very source of our Joy. (John 15:11; 1 John 1:4 & 1 Pet. 1:8)
  4. It is the source of our prayers being answered. (John 15:7)
  5. Who enjoys all the privileges of a blessed, joyous, fruitful, abundant, healthy life? Only those who ABIDE IN HIM.

D. HOW do we cultivate or cause to grow and develop this kind of DAILY COMMUNION i.e. RELATIONSHIP with JESUS?

1. First, it requires a WILLINGNESS, DESIRE and a COMMITMENT on our part. When we first met JESUS and were BORN INTO HIS FAMILY the Holy Spirit instilled within us the DESIRE. We experienced a LOVE from Him and for Him which fills us with such joy, peace and happiness that we DESIRE to KNOW HIM better and WANT TO LIVE FOR HIM.

2. This becomes or is a self-perpetuating type of movement or walk. The more involved we become or enjoy it the more we desire. Praise God, it's habit forming.

3. This type of fellowship or communion requires our willingness to walk in the Light, the LIFE and WORD of the LORD. (1 John 1:7; Amos 3:3; John 15:3 & 7).

4. This life style involves our submission to HIM. Our agreement with HIM. Which means that if we intend to enjoy HIS presence in our daily lives we must agree with HIS WORD AND WALK IN IT.

5. It also means that we FOLLOW HIS DIRECTIONS, ABIDE IN HIS WILL, BE OBEDIENT TO HIS WORD and FOLLOW THE LEADERSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. (Eph. 5:22-24)

6. This also means that we cease to do things our way and according to our thoughts. We will eventually learn that HIS WAY is the BEST WAY not only just for HIM but for US. And that no matter where HE leads or directs us as long as HE is with US nothing else matters.

## II. QUESTIONS:

1. After reading the scriptures and studying this lesson are you aware that this is the kind of daily experience that God desires for you to have? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Are you enjoying or experiencing this type of daily life? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

3. If the answer to item B above is No, then what will you do about it? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Is Jesus real to you? Someone with whom you share your innermost secrets, desires and needs? Do you do this on a daily basis. How does HE respond? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Does HIS presence in your daily life really make a difference in the way you speak, the places you go and the things that you do? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

6. Is your relationship so close that you sense deep within yourself HIS HURT when you do something that displeases HIM. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you believe in Jesus just as you do in George Washington or Abraham Lincoln, that is, He is just a historical person that you believe existed in the past and perhaps still exist today but He is not A LIVING, VIBRANT PERSONAL BEING to you? He is alive in Me\_\_ He is not alive in Me.\_\_ Please confess out LOUD with your mouth "JESUS CHRIST IS LORD"! SAY IT AGAIN! DO YOU MEAN IT?

8. If you suddenly MET JESUS in the flesh.....There He is. Would you be meeting a FRIEND, someone YOU KNOW or would you be meeting a stranger? \_\_\_\_\_

9. In a few brief words (if you can make it brief) explain in your own words just what JESUS means to you? Write it down. Know one else needs to see it and HE ALREADY KNOWS.

**THANK YOU!**

**GOD BLESS YOU!**

**ISN'T JESUS WONDERFUL!**