

God desires a personal relationship with each of us. He sent His Son to dwell in the flesh with man and make possible the unification of God and man. However, to increase our closeness with God, means that we must remain in Christ and seek His Holiness. We can do nothing outside of God and He calls us to become more like Him and less like our sinful flesh. We must continue to increase our obedience and faith in Christ for all things and not live for the things of this world.

- Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- 1 John 1:3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- 2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit *be* with you all. Amen.
- John 15:15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.
- John 15:3-4 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.
- Col 3:1-4 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.
- John 3:30 He must increase, but I *must* decrease.
- Heb 2:11-13 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified *are* all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You." And again: "I will put My trust in Him." And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me."

Discussion Item 1: *When and/or how is your fellowship with God deepened?*

Discussion Item 2: *How can you improve your fellowship with God?*

Life Application: *Identify areas in your life where you are not obedient to God and correct them one at a time. Trust in the Lord for His help and see how your relationship becomes richer.*

Helpful Definition:

fellowship - The companionship of individuals in a congenial atmosphere and on equal terms. A close association of friends or equals sharing similar interest. Friendship; comradeship.. (Webster).

Notes:

Proverb 13:20 He who walks with wise *men* will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

Psalms 55:14 We took sweet counsel together, *And* walked to the house of God in the throng.