

## Let's Get Connected

### 1 John 1:1-4 (VOICE)

We want to tell you about the One who was from the beginning. ... We have seen Him with our own eyes, ... heard Him with our own ears, ... and touched Him with our own hands. ... This One is the manifestation of the life-giving Voice, ... 2 and He showed us real life, eternal life. ... We have seen it all, and **we can't keep what we witnessed quiet - we have to share it with you.** ... We are inviting you to experience eternal life through the One who was with the Father and came down to us. ... 3 **What we saw and heard we pass on to you ... so that you, too, will be connected with us intimately and become family.** ... Our family is united by our connection with the Father and His Son Jesus, the Anointed One; ... 4 and we write all this because retelling this story fulfills our joy.

### Let's Get Connected to the God-Head

#### Connecting with the Father

### Psalm 63:1 (VOICE)

O True God, ... You are my God, ... the One whom I trust. ... **I seek You with every fiber of my being.** ... In this dry and weary land with no water in sight, ... **my soul is dry and longs for You.** ... My body aches for You, for Your presence.

#### Practical Principles for Connecting with the Father

#### We Must Develop a True Hunger / Desire for the Father

### Jeremiah 29:13 (MSG)

“When you come looking for me, you'll find me. ... **“Yes, when you get serious about finding me ... and want it more than anything else, ... I'll make sure you won't be disappointed.”** ... God's Decree.

#### This Speaks to Motive

The Father knows the reason behind you are seeking after Him ... He knows the intent and motivation that resides in your heart ... May I say as kindly as I can - all too often we seek Him

to meet a need we have rather than seeking a relationship ... In the natural, we call this being used by people ... How many of you have ever been used or taken advantage of? ... And once you have been “used up” you never see nor hear from the person again ... Don’t treat your heavenly Father that way.

### Matthew 7:7-8 (AMP)

“Ask and keep on asking ... and it will be given to you; ... seek and keep on seeking... and you will find; ... knock and keep on knocking ... and the door will be opened to you. ... 8 For everyone who keeps on asking receives, ... and he who keeps on seeking finds, ... and to him who keeps on knocking, it will be opened.

### This Speaks to Perseverance

How intense will you be in pursuing a relationship with the Father ... Will you be relentless in your pursuit of Him? ... Will you be intentional in your pursuit?

### We must Spend Quality Time with the Father

#### Psalm 27:4 (TPT)

Here’s the one thing I crave from God, the one thing I seek above all else: ... I want the privilege of living with him every moment in His house, ... finding the sweet loveliness of His face, ... filled with awe, ... delighting in His glory and grace. I want to live my life so close to Him that He takes pleasure in my every prayer.

#### Exodus 34:14 (TLB)

For you must worship no other gods, ... but only Jehovah, ... for He is a God who claims absolute loyalty and exclusive devotion.

### We Must Hang with Others who Have the Same Hunger / Desire for the Father that will Support and Push Us

#### Hebrews 10:24 (AMPC)

And let us consider and give attentive, continuous care to watching over one another, studying how we may stir up (stimulate and incite) to love and helpful deeds and noble activities,

## Proverbs 27:17 (VOICE)

In the same way that iron sharpens iron, ... a person sharpens the character of his friend.

### Activation Exercise - We must actively practice

#### Prayer

Father God, forgive me for my lack of hunger and desire for intimacy with You ... Forgive me for running hard after the things of this world rather than running hard after You ... Forgive me for my lack of loyalty and exclusive devotion to You ... This morning, I repent ... I choose to hunger and thirst after You and You alone ... I choose to never give up in my pursuit for intimacy with You ... I will spend quality time with You each and every day ... I will seek out other that will challenge me and push me into a deeper relationship with You ... Father, I thank you that Your thoughts are always towards me when my thoughts have not always been towards You ... My desire is to never take Your love for granted again ... I choose to remain in constant fellowship with You all the days of my life.

#### Meditation

Now, lets engage the Father ... Keep your eyes closed ... Picture in your mind's eye or imagine the Father sitting on His throne ... Visualize yourself walking up to Him ... As you get closer to Him I want you to look at His face ... As you look at His face, notice the huge smile the Father has as you walk closer to Him ... Now as you stand before Him, picture yourself climbing up into His lap as a little child does with their mom or dad ... Now nestle yourself in - get good and comfortable ... Feel His warm embrace as He puts His arms around you and holds you ... Allow the feelings of His love, safety and security to flow over you just like you don't have a care in the world - because you really don't ... Feel His breath as He kisses you on the top of your head and quietly whispers that He loves you ... Just relax and allow His love and peace to fill your entire being