

INTIMACY WITH GOD - Kahu Billy Mitchell, October 1, 2023

Christianity has always been based on an intimate, personal relationship with Christ Jesus!

Passion - Hunger - for His presence - Joy - Loving

If you are not becoming, more and more intimate with the Lord; all you are doing is wallowing in religion! It doesn't work! It's based on you trying to be perfect, earn righteousness, make other people perfect. That is impossible! Everyone has intimate places and people in our lives! People we like and dislike! Our cell phones, we put so much trust in??? Our deepest thoughts, our deepest hangups, hurts and habits, fears, doubts, vulnerabilities. Jesus wants to become that most intimate person in your life!

HOW DO WE BECOME MORE AND MORE INTIMATE WITH OUR LORD JESUS?

1. Open the door to your heart now! The intimacy first comes from God

Revelation 3:20 NASB ²⁰Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if anyone hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

2. Come to Christ Matthew 11:28-30 NASB ²⁸"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

**Come Broken . . . Empty . . . Surrendered . . . Trusting . . . Vulnerable to God . . .
Standing in the gap for others . . . despair about this world . . . for our children**

Matthew 5:6 NIV Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Men's Intimacy with God: Surrender = Challenge = Our Pride. . . because of Upbringing = Culture - don't show weakness Proverbs 3:5&6 NASB 1995 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Women's Intimacy: Based on love! Letting anyone into your sacred spaces is very, very personal, difficult, sacred; into your heart, body, life, upbringing, "We've been hurt", it should be guarded, bullying, social media, social status, image. [Luke 1:26-38 NIV - Mary, mother of Jesus - the young virgin, says to the angel Gabriel, "How can this happen since I am a virgin?"] Surrender to Jesus! He will never fail you!

3. Grow in God's Word so you don't go away from His Love Colossians 3:16 NASB Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

4. Fervent Prayer II Chronicles 7:14 NIV if my people, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves and pray** and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Words of the hymn "I Surrender All"

All to Jesus I surrender All to Him I freely give I will ever love and trust Him In His presence daily live
All to Jesus I surrender Make me, Savior, wholly Thine Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit
Truly knowing that Thou art mine
I surrender all. I surrender all. All to Thee My blessed Savior I surrender all.

In Conclusion: Nothing can teach you how to enter into this level of intimacy with God but your own heart!!! Empty . . . Burdened for others, Jesus is there waiting for you. Come just as you are!"