



Lesson 50 - Relationship - Open up the Gates

Our lesson today is going to be about relationship. Let's look at the words the Lord gave us this week and see how they relate to relationship.

BT – Is the flesh important? No! It is the spirit of God that is in you that is important. It is the spirit that lives. Life is in the spirit. It is in the spirit you come to me; for the spirit endures and the flesh dies. The world is about the flesh. Heed me, not the world, for the world and the flesh are dying. Abide in my ways. I will not lead you astray. I will lead you to victory with me in the spirit. For in the spirit we will be triumphant.

Read everyday. The enemy knows chapter and verse. It matters what's in your heart. Devour my word so that it is in your heart. There is no need for debate. I will bring them to you. Get prepared. The harvest is upon us.

CT – Live for my best purposes. Be my servant. Teach and speak of gratitude and thankfulness and relationship. Open up the gates. **What gates?** The gates around your heart. Vestiges- stop clinging to those last vestiges of self. Yes, you are unique. You are an individual. I'm talking about completely seeking after Me and My will and our relationship. Being with me doesn't cause anyone to lose their identity because I made each person uniquely.

The Lord put thoughts of relationship in my mind:

Bride to Groom

Child to Father

Servant to King

There is a time and purpose for each. Seek out each (type of relationship) as such. Be involved in every aspect of our relationship (in His will) Amen.

We received the words above on the 5th of June. The next day I was reading from my God Calling book and this was the message for the 6th of June;

I came to help a world. And according to the varying needs of each so does each man see Me. It is not necessary that you see Me as others see Me—the world, even the Church, My disciples, My followers, but it is necessary that you see Me, each of you, as supplying all that you personally need.

The weak need My Strength. The strong need My Tenderness. The tempted and fallen need My Salvation. The righteous need My Pity for sinners. The lonely need a Friend. The fighters need a leader.

No man could be all these to men—only a God could be. In each of these relations of Mine to man you must see the God. The God-Friend, the God-Leader, the God-Savior.

When things like this happen I think that it is amazing. I mean what a match up between the words we received and the words from the God Calling book! It looks like the Lord really wants us to think about relationship; with that in mind, here we go.

When thinking of relationships what are some important aspects to help you maintain a relationship? I thought about it and came up with this list:

**time together,
commitment,
communication,
faithfulness,
fulfillment (meeting needs),
honesty,
intimacy,
loyalty,
respect**

And I can never forget the needlepoint my mother had which read, "To have a friend you must first be one."

Let's look at some verses from the Bible that address different aspects of relationship. Tell me how you think each verse addresses relationship.

John 14: 15-18

"If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."

Genesis 28:15

"Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."

1 Corinthians 6:16-17

....For "the two", He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him."

Romans 8:14-17

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again, to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Numbers 23:19

"God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Isaiah 25:1

O Lord, You are my God. I will exalt You, I will praise Your name, For You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Psalms 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

1 Peter 5:7

casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Titus 1:1-2

Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the father of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

Deuteronomy 33:12

"The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by Him, who shelters him all the day long; and he shall dwell between His shoulders."

We just went over a lot of verses and believe me there are many more we could list here but what I wanted you to see from these verses is that the Lord is committed to you. He cares for you. He wants the best for you. He will protect you and He will guide you. Do all of these qualities sound like someone who wants to have a relationship? It does to me.

And the Lord said, **Is the flesh important? No! It is the spirit of God that is in you that is important.** It is the joining of the two (your spirit and His spirit) that is important. Then the Lord goes on to tell us: **Vestiges- stop clinging to those last vestiges of self;** or in other words stop holding on to your will, your independence. Let's look at the **definition of the root word of independence or independent: not subject to control by others; not requiring or relying on something else; not requiring or relying on others; and/or showing a desire for freedom.** If you look at this definition from the standpoint of our relationship to the Lord then the definition itself sounds rather negative doesn't it. First, desiring freedom from the relationship basically means no relationship at all. Second, not subject to control or not relying on others would be like saying something like, I am not going to rely on the Lord; I will rely on myself. I will not obey His commandments because I will not be subject to His control. It is almost as if some feel like getting rid of self means getting rid of their identity as opposed to getting rid of negative, self-destructive behavior. Can you see how clinging to self can be destructive? The Lord stated, **Being with me doesn't cause anyone to lose their identity because I made each person uniquely.**

The Lord is saying, **Abide in my ways. I will not lead you astray. I will lead you to victory with me in the spirit. For in the spirit we will be triumphant.** You can see from these words that the Lord prefers to be committed to this relationship of ours. He is loyal and faithful. He gives you assurances. Therefore, when you think of it from this light (commitment/faithfulness), what is so attractive about your independence?

The Lord put additional thoughts of relationship in my mind by reminding me of the various ways He has described our relationship:

Bride to Groom
Child to Father
Servant to King

And He explained further by stating, There is a time and purpose for each. Seek out each (type of relationship) as such. Be involved in every aspect of our relationship (in His will). I'm talking about completely seeking after Me and My will and our relationship. The best ways I can think of to seek after His will is by spending time with Him, in His word, in study and in prayer. But He said it best when He said, Read everyday. The enemy knows chapter and verse. It matters what's in your heart. Devour my word so that it is in your heart. And likewise, Open up the gates. What gates? The gates around your heart. For your heart is truly the seat of all your relationships.

May the Lord Bless and Keep you,
Cindy

<http://www.takehisheart.com>