

Getaway With God

Extended Time with the Lord

This is a format for an extended individual time with the Lord. Each page contains a different aspect of drawing near to the Lord, hearing Him through His Word, and responding to Him. Try each one of the practices, not spending more than hour on any one practice. Write down what the Lord communicates to you through His Word. Write down your prayer response to what He has said to you.

We will get together this evening and share about what we heard from the Lord and how we responded.

In addition I want you to think about who you were before Christ and who you are now. If you can't remember a time before you knew Christ then dwell a time when God brought you through some hardship in your life. How has Christ impacted your life?

Praise

Thoughts about Praise

- “The end we ought to propose to ourselves is to become, in this life, the most perfect worshipers of God we can possibly be, as we hope to be through all eternity.” (Brother Lawrence)
- “Here is one of the greatest values of praise: it decentralizes self. The worship and praise of God demands a shift of center from self to God. One cannot praise God without relinquishing occupation with self. Praise produces forgetfulness of self – and forgetfulness of self is health.” (Paul Billheimer)

Hear the Lord through His Word

Romans 8:31-39

Psalms 23

Psalms 103

Lamentations 3:22-26

Ephesians 1:3-19

Respond to Lord and His Word

Choose a passage or two and meditate on what it reveals about our Lord and in particular, His love for us. Use what the Lord reveals about Himself as your springboard to praise and adore Him. Don't be in a hurry to go beyond praising our Lord until you have spent adequate time worshipping Him! He is worthy of praise!

Waiting on the Lord

Thoughts about Waiting on the Lord

- “The most important and frequent use of the word ‘wait’...is to define the attitude of a soul God-ward. It implies the listening ear, a heart responsive to the wooing of God, a concentration of the spiritual faculties upon heavenly things, the patience of faith...It describes an eager anticipation and yearning for the revelation of truth and love as it is in the Father.” (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia)
- “Waiting on the Lord is basically the silent surrendering of the soul to God” (Dick Eastman)
- “Waiting is a time of silent love. Praise cries boldly, ‘God, I see these excellent qualities in your nature.’ Waiting says softly, ‘God, I love You!’ “. (Dick Eastman)

Hear the Lord through His Word

Psalm 62:1-8

Psalm 33:20-22

Psalm 130:5-8

Respond to the Lord and His Word

As you meditate on what the Lord is saying through His Word, ask Him to cause the things of this world to recede into the background. Spend some time quietly concentrating on His lovingkindness and responding back to Him in love.

Confession

Thoughts on Confession

- “God cannot hear the prayers of our lips often because the desires of our heart after the world cry out to Him much more strongly and loudly than our desires for Him.” (Andrew Murray)
- “Cry out for Divine holiness. Quietly ask God to show you areas that need cleansing. Often a quick trip though the previous 24 hours reveals the need for confession. Especially be on guard for little things, those unseen sins that grow to cause such severe damage.” (Dick Eastman)
- “Cry out for a Divine attitude. Quietly ask God to show you relationships that need healing, people with whom you have had a bad attitude.” (Dick Eastman)
- “Cry out for Divine unction. Admit that without God’s Spirit operating in and through you, all your efforts will be hopelessly ineffective.” Ask Him to fill you anew with His Spirit.

Hear the Lord through His Word

Psalm 32

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 51

Psalm 38

Respond to the Lord and His Word

As you meditate on what the Lord is saying through His Word, confess any sins He brings to mind. Mentally examine your activities in the last 24 – 48 hours before the Lord, asking Him to reveal any areas of spiritual failure that need to be confessed.

Pray Scripture

Thoughts on Praying Scripture

- “The Word of God is the fulcrum (support) upon which the lever of prayer is placed, and by which things are mightily moved. God has committed Himself, His purpose, and His promises to prayer. His Word becomes the basis, the inspiration of our praying...”
(E.M. Bounds)
- George Mueller, describing his devotional hour: “The first thing I did, after having asked in a few words the Lord’s blessing upon His precious Word, was to begin to meditate on the Word of God, searching as it were into every verse to get a blessing out of it; not for the sake of the public ministry of the Word, nor for the sake of preaching on what I meditated upon, but for the sake of obtaining food for my own soul. The result I have found to be almost invariably this, that after a very few minutes my soul has been lead to confession, or to thanksgiving, or to intercession, or to supplication; so that, though I did not, as it were, give myself to prayer, but to meditation, yet it turned almost immediately more or less into prayer.”

Hear the Lord through His Word

Psalms 37

Philippians 1:9-11

Colossians 3:1-4

1 John 2:28-3:3

Ephesians 4:17-32

Respond to the Lord and His Word

“Examine a passage from the Gospels, the Epistles, or the Psalms. Look carefully for specific ways to apply each verse to prayer. As you study the verses, ask yourself what petition this prompts you to make, or what promise this passage contains that stands directly behind a specific petition. Develop actual prayers based on the thoughts and phrases included in the passage of Scripture and offer those prayers confidently to God.”
(Dick Eastman)

Intercession and Petition

Thoughts on Intercession and Petition

- “To make intercession for men is the most powerful and practical way in which we can express our love for them.” (John Calvin)
- “Prayer must be broad in its scope – it must plead for others. Intercession for others is the hallmark of all true prayer...Prayer is the soul of a man stirred to plead with God for men...” (E.M. Bounds)
- “Petition is that aspect of prayer given over to asking God for specific personal things.” (Dick Eastman)
- “(Petition) is the confession of helplessness in a specific matter. As E.M. Bounds reminds us, ‘Prayer is the language of a man burdened with a sense of need.’ “ (Dick Eastman)

Hear the Lord through His Word

Ephesians 6:10-20

Acts 4:24-31

Philippians 3:1-11

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Colossians 1:9-14

Respond to the Lord and His Word

As you meditate on what the Lord is saying through His Word, use it as a basis to pray for people in your life, both Christians and non-Christians. Pray for specific needs you have in your life also, examining your motives for bringing these requests before the Lord.

Thanksgiving

Thoughts on Thanksgiving

- "...thanksgiving is the act of expressing specific gratitude to God for blessings He has bestowed upon us." (Dick Eastman)
- "Thanksgiving might well be labeled "a confession of blessings". (Dick Eastman)
- "Allow your mind to wander through the previous day's activities. This will lead you to many points of concentration for specific thanksgiving." (Dick Eastman)
- "Confess spiritual, material, physical (relating to our bodies), and external (not related directly to us) blessings." (Dick Eastman)

Hear the Lord through His Word

Psalm 107

Psalm 136

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Ephesians 5:18-20

Respond to the Lord and His Word

- As you meditate on what the Lord is saying through His Word, allow your mind to review recent days, thanking Him for blessings He bestowed. Also, thank Him 'in advance' for blessings you expect Him to bestow in the future. Thank God for at least one particular blessing you have not thanked Him for previously. (Dick Eastman)

Listening

Thoughts on Listening

- "...the most effectual remedy for self-love and self-absorption is the habit of humble listening." (Bridgid Herman)
- "Whenever the sounds of the world die out in the soul, then we hear the whisperings of God. He is always whispering to us, only we don't always hear because of the noise, hurry and distractions which life causes as it rushes on." (F.W. Faber)
- "Most often, God speaks through His Word. In fact, all forms of guidance must be measured by Scripture. Guidance contrary to God's Word is guidance originating from another source." (Dick Eastman)

Hear the Lord through His Word

Psalm 25

Proverbs 3:1-8

Psalm 81:11-16

Psalm 55:1-3

Respond to the Lord and His Word

- "As you meditate on what the Lord is saying through His Word, ask the Lord about difficult problems or situations. Mentally evaluate all circumstances that relate to a problem. Ask God to show you're his plan. Be prepared to write down any ideas God may share concerning the details of solving that particular problem." (Dick Eastman)
- Make sure that any plans or ideas you receive are in line with the principles and commands of Scripture. The Lord's plan and will is always in line with His Word.

Praise

Thoughts on Praise

- “As we come to these final moments of prayer, the soul pauses to contemplate the awesome wonder of God’s being. We vocally magnify the nature of God. To magnify the Lord’s name with praise is to put a spiritual magnifying glass to all that God is and declare these discoveries aloud.” (Dick Eastman)

Hear the Lord through His Word

Revelation 5:8-14

Revelation 1:12-20

Romans 11:33-36

Respond to the Lord and His Word

As you meditate on what you see of the Lord in His Word, respond in praise of who He is and His majesty. Close your time with Him in a litany of praise to Him!

