

Am I as close to God as I would like to be?

This is a subjective question for which only you know the answer. But the mere fact that you have come to this spot on the world-wide web suggests that you may be seeking a greater sense of closeness with God... that maybe you are not as close to him as you would like to be.

First of all, this is good news. The author of the letter to the Hebrews toward the end of the New Testament has written that “whoever would approach God must believe... that **he rewards those who seek him**. (Hebrews 11:6)

However (why is there always a “however”) – you will need to decide how actively (eagerly, energetically...passionately) you are willing to continue your quest to draw closer to God. Remember, nobody in the Bible sat idly and passively by and found the closeness with God they sought. Abraham left his homeland and his family to go to a place he had never heard of before (Genesis 12); Moses had to “turn aside” to see why the burning bush was not being consumed (Exodus 3:3); Jesus’ disciples-to-be, like Peter and Andrew, “left everything and followed [Jesus]” (Luke 5:11).

Some of the “active” ways you can pursue the deeper closeness with God that you would like to have include:

1. Go to someone you admire whom you also know to be a Christian, ask them what they did to find the close relationship with God they now seem to enjoy.
2. Go to the “Contact” button on my home page and send an e-mail to me asking for suggestions. (I promise, no pressure, no attempt to “sell” you anything).

Am I as close to God as He would like me to be?

One way to discover how close God wants us to be with Him is to look at how things are going to be after the world we now live in has vanished and there is a “new heaven and a new earth” (Revelation, chapter 21). In verse 3f. is written: “***See, the home of God is with His people; He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his people and God himself will be with them.***”

This is a description of how God wants things to turn out: Him and us together...closely...forever.

Christians over the past 20 centuries have tended to view life in this world as an opportunity to prepare ourselves for that close togetherness with God we will enjoy in eternity.

If this sounds logical to you, as it does to me, then the best use of our time and energy is to spend them being enthusiastically involved in activities that have the highest probability of preparing us for the life of close connectedness with God.

What might some of those activities be?

- Sitting quietly in an empty Church or beside a peaceful stream and listening for “the still, small voice”
- Talking with God as you would a close friend: pour your heart out, give voice to your needs and concerns
- Read portions of the Gospels in the New Testament as a “love letter from God to you.”
- Write your “god thoughts” in a journal
- See what happens if you allow your thoughts to be “prompted” by a daily meditation [on this web-site], or from a book like Oswald Chambers’ *My Utmost for His Highest*