

How Can We Live Your Love Life With God?

by Mike Bickle

Deep within our hearts, where only heaven's eyes witness, we long to experience the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit. We long to be lovers of God. This has been my dream and consuming desire for many years.

When I first heard God's promise to make me a fervent lover, it seemed too good ever to be fulfilled. Yet Jesus' words gave me hope: ""You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind""

(Matt. 22:37, NKJV, emphasis added).

He was saying that my heart could burn with love for Him. This is the supernatural power we long for that He has promised to give.

We often see ourselves as failures. But Jesus does not define us by our immaturity. He sees us as genuine lovers of God.

Why? Because He knows the cries of our hearts and gives us the enabling power to love Him in a genuine way. Here is the way His plan to impassion us works:

Our hearts are renewed and empowered to love by knowing two things: first, God's passionate personality and second, who we are to Him. Love feeds on truth,

and when our hearts begin to know the truth of how God loves and desires us and who we are to Him, we are transformed from being weak in heart to bold in love.

When we understand the passions of God's personality, our hearts become alive in love, and we have the ability to enjoy Him. There is no greater revelation than the revelation of the heart of Jesus to us. God radiates with love for His people. He looks upon us in great delight and enjoyment.

Knowing this changes our emotional chemistry. We are invigorated and strengthened by the revelation of His amazing affection. We are renewed by the knowledge of what we look like to Him.

Our spiritual identity is determined by the way God sees us, which is different from how others perceive us and how we perceive ourselves. God has purposed that we define ourselves according to the way He feels about us and by what He declares over our lives.

Our tendency is to determine our identity and assess our value by how well we perform spiritual disciplines or how we look spiritually to others. We have grown accustomed to deriving our sense of worth by how we measure up spiritually rather than by how God sees us. This causes us to become slaves to the religious opinions of people rather than being free in the love of God.

It leads to a misinterpretation of who we really are, which is

who we are
before God. We judge ourselves as hopeless hypocrites instead
of genuine lovers
of God.

Whether we succeed or fail, when we determine our worth by
other people's
perception of us, we are doomed to feel like failures. The
Lord designed us to
find wholeness in Him and security in His declaration of
beauty and success over
our lives. He created our hearts so that only in this
realignment will we find
joy and comfort.

The enemy attempts to destroy our confidence before God by
causing us to
imagine that God despises us. Believing these accusations
leads to distorted
images of God and an unclear perception of what we look like
to Him. With these
untruths hovering over us, we become paralyzed by the feeling
that God is
disappointed with us. We lose all motivation to persevere and
press in to the
Lord. We lose the energy to seek His face wholeheartedly.

The truth about God's heart is the weapon to combat the
accusations of the
enemy. The revelation of God's delight in us renders void
these accusations and
causes us to become empowered for righteousness. Truth
transforms us. Meditation
on His Word progressively washes away the wrong images we have
of God and the
wrong impressions we have of who we are to God.

As we enter into agreement with God about what He looks like

and what we look
like to Him, the darkness of Satan's lies is overcome.

This article is from the July
2001 issue of *Charisma*