



Session 3

The Intimate God

I. Review

1. Knowledge of God
2. God of Glory

II. The Intimate God: God, abiding with us...

A. The Garden

1. The place of fellowship, The place of encounter
2. Kings had gardens as private retreats
3. Language
 - a) Hebrew – Garden of Eden - Pleasure
 - (1) Gen 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.
 - (2) Gen 3:8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day,...
 - (3) Eze 28:13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared.
 - b) Greek – Paradiiso (Persian)
 - (1) Luk 23:43 And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."
 - (2) 2Co 12:4 was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.
 - (3) Rev 2:7 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'
4. Eden
 - a) In the cool of the day... when the wind blows...
 - (1) God walked with Adam & Eve
 - (2) Holy Spirit was still brooding and moving in the garden
 - b) What did Adam see when he opened his eyes?
5. Our Heart, His garden
 - a) Song of Solomon

- (1) Son 4:9-11 You have captivated my heart, my sister, my bride; you have captivated my heart with one glance of your eyes, with one jewel of your necklace. How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much better is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your oils than any spice! Your lips drip nectar, my bride; honey and milk are under your tongue; the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.
- (2) Son 4:12-15 A garden locked is my sister, my bride, a spring locked, a fountain sealed. Your shoots are an orchard of pomegranates with all choicest fruits, henna with nard, nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon, with all trees of frankincense, myrrh and aloes, with all choice spices-- a garden fountain, a well of living water, and flowing streams from Lebanon.
- (3) Son 4:16-5:1 Awake, O north wind, and come, O south wind! Blow upon my garden, let its spices flow. Let my beloved come to his garden, and eat its choicest fruits. "I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride; I have gathered my myrrh along with my balsam. I have eaten my honeycomb and my honey; I have drunk my wine and my milk. Eat, friends; Drink and imbibe deeply, O lovers."

6. Beatitudes – the flowers in our garden

- a) Cultivating our garden, our heart.
- b) Mt 5-7

B. Fellowshiping with God

1. Council, Fellowship, Intimacy, Friendship, Secret

- a) Job 29:4 As I was in the prime of my days, When the friendship of God was over my tent;
- b) Psa 25:14 The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant.
- c) Jer 23:18 For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened?
- d) Pro 3:32 For the devious are an abomination to the LORD; But He is intimate with the upright.
- e) Psa 55:14 We who had sweet fellowship together Walked in the house of God in the throng.

2. Fellowship with the Father

- a) 1Jn 1:3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
- b) Abiding Father
 - (1) Joh 14:10 "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.
 - (2) Psa 15:1 A Psalm of David. O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill?
 - (3) Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.
 - (4) Joh 14:20 "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

3. Fellowship with the Son

a) Abiding Son

- (1) Joh 15:4-7 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

4. Fellowship with HS

a) 2Co 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

b) Abiding, indwelling HS

- (1) Joh 14:16-17 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

c) Temple of the Holy Spirit

- (1) 1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

d) Searches the heart of God

- (1) 1Co 2:10-11 For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

e) Reveals the things of Jesus

- (1) Joh 16:12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
- (2) Joh 16:13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
- (3) Joh 16:14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.
- (4) Joh 16:15 "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

f) Walk & live with Him

- (1) Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit,...
- (2) Gal 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

5. God dwells with Man eternally

a) Revelation 21 - Heaven, the New Jerusalem, our home will come down from heaven to the Earth - Heaven on Earth.

b) God will tabernacle among mankind and He will dwell among them!

c) Rev 4-5

- (1) Sea of Glass & fire

- 1) *Rev 15:2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.*
 - (2) We will stand on this sea and worship Him.
 - (3) Our eternal home will be in the New Jerusalem on earth
 - (4) Father & Son & Spirit dwelling with mankind.
 - (5) Awesome & wonder!
 - 1) *No one has seen the Father but He who came down from Him - Jesus*
- d) Rev 21
- (1) The Garden
 - (2) Trees & River
 - (3) Before His Throne

6. Ps 139 - His intimate knowledge of me

- a) Psa 139:1 For the choir director. A Psalm of David. O LORD, You have searched me and known me. Psa 139:2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. Psa 139:3 You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.
- b) Psa 139:4 Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. Psa 139:5 You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Psa 139:6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it.
- c) Psa 139:13 For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. Psa 139:14 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. Psa 139:15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Psa 139:16 Your eyes have seen my unformed substance;
- d) Psa 139:16 And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them. Psa 139:17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Psa 139:18 If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.
- (1) What are you thinking? What are you feeling?
 - 1) *Holy Spirit*
 - 2) *Joh 16:13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. Joh 16:14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. Joh 16:15 "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.*
 - 3) *1Co 2:10 For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. 1Co 2:11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God*
 - (2) Psa 40:5 Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders which You have done, And Your thoughts toward us; There is none to compare with You. If I would declare and speak of them, They would be too numerous to count.

- 1) Eph 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*
- (3) What are your thoughts towards me? What do you think of me? What are you feeling about me?
 - 1) Psa 139:23 *Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; Psa 139:24 And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.*
- e) He wants to be known
 - (1) Jer 24:7 *'I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the LORD; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart.*
 - 1) Jer_31:34 *"They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*
 - 2) Joh_10:14 *"I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me,*
 - 3) Joh_14:9 *Jesus *said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*
 - 4) Deu_4:29 *"But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.*

C. Tools

1. Meditation

- a) (Psa 145:5) On the glorious splendor of Your majesty And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.
- b) (Psa 1:2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.
- c) (Psa 119:15) I will meditate on Your precepts And regard Your ways.
- d) (Deu 14:6) "chewsH5927 the cudH1625"
 - (1) Ruminant - to bring back up to chew on again
 - (2) chews = go up
- e) (Psa 4:4) Tremble, and do not sin; Meditate* in your heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah. *talk
- f) Psa 77:6 I will remember my song in the night; I will meditate with my heart, And my spirit ponders:
- g) Psa 77:12-13 I will meditate on all Your work And muse on Your deeds. Your way, O God, is holy; What god is great like our God?

2. Contemplation

- a) Psa 46:10 *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

- b) Psa 37:7 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.
- c) (Psa 119:95) The wicked wait for me to destroy me; I shall diligently consider* Your testimonies. (contemplate)
- d) What contemplation is NOT
 - (1) It's not emptying your mind and focusing on nothing.
 - (2) It's not doing it with false religions
 - (3) Be aware of what others call contemplation
- e) con·tem·plate verb \ 'kän-təm- ,plät, - ,tem-\ : to think deeply or carefully about (something) : to think deeply

3. Praying in the Spirit

- a) 1Co 14:1-5 Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation. One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church. Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.
- b) 1Co 14:14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.
- c) Rom 8:26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;
- d) Eph 5:18-19 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;...
- e) Part of our Standing Firm
 - (1) Eph 6:10-13 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.
 - (2) Eph 6:17 Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

(3) Eph 6:18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,...

f) Walk with the Spirit

(1) Gal 5:16-18 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

(2) Gal 5:22-25 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

(3) How do we walk with the Spirit?

1) *Relationally*

2) *Dialogue – two way conversation*