

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Select Passages • July 29, 2007 • Pastor Mike Newman

July 29, 2007 "Connecting With God"
August 5, 2007 "Hearing From God"

Sacred
PATHWAYS

Hebrews 10:19-22 (NLT) ¹⁹And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. ²⁰By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. ²¹And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, ²²let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

John 14:6 (NLT) ⁶Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Romans 3:23-24 (NLT) ²³For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. ²⁴Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

Romans 10:9-13 (NLT) ⁹If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. ¹¹As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." ¹²Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. ¹³For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."

James 4:8 (NLT) ⁸Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

Hebrews 10:25 (NLT) ²⁵And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

1 John 1:9 (NLT) ⁹But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

Two Biblical Principles:

- 1) God wants to have a _____ relationship with us.
✓ See Hebrews 10:19-22
- 2) A relationship with God is _____ to follow Christ and accept His forgiveness of your sins.
✓ See John 14:6, Romans 3:23-24, Romans 10:9-13, James 4:8

Connecting with God and developing your relationship with God requires effort on your part.

Three Suggestions To Help You "Connect With God:"

- 1) You need to incorporate _____ Bible reading, prayer, and corporate worship into your life.
✓ Hebrews 10:25
- 2) You need to deal with _____ in your life and confess sins when you mess up.
✓ 1 John 1:9
- 3) Work on figuring out your " _____ " and make it a regular part of your life.

One size doesn't fit all when it comes to the best way to connect with God!



Otterbein Church & Ministry Center

801 Park Street • Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, 17268 • Rev. Michael Newman, Senior Pastor
Helping People Look Biblically at the Real Issues of Life!

CDs and DVDs of this message are available by contacting the church office at 717-762-7147 or info@otterbeinchurch.org or online at www.otterbeinchurch.org

How to Begin a Relationship with Jesus

Believe that Jesus is who He said He was, that He came and died on the cross, and that He arose from the dead three days later.

Acknowledge your sins and ask God to forgive you.

Submit yourself to follow God's teachings for life.

Express your desire to have this kind of relationship to God.

For more information about what it means to become a follower of Christ or what to do after you make a decision to follow Jesus, speak to one of the elders or pastors following the service today (they can be found by the prayer room in the church lobby) or contact the church office (717-762-7147) to set up an appointment. You may also request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey on our website by clicking on the "Beginning Your Journey" link.

www.otterbeinchurch.org

For more information about
Spiritual Pathways, pick up the book
Spiritual Pathways by Gary Thomas.
Zondervan Corporation.

James 4:8 (NLT) ⁸Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

9 Spiritual Pathways:

- _____ - Loving God while in nature.
- _____ - Loving God with the senses.
- _____ - Loving God through ritual and symbols.
- _____ - Loving God in solitude and simplicity.
- _____ - Loving God through confrontation.
- _____ - Loving God by loving others.
- _____ - Loving God with mystery and celebration.
- _____ - Loving God with adoration.
- _____ - Loving God with the mind.

Two Final Thoughts:

- 1) No "spiritual pathway" is _____ - they are just different.
- 2) We should help our children and those around us _____ their spiritual pathway and do everything we can to encourage them and enable them to better connect with God.

As a result of today's sermon, I will...



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