

CALLED INTO FELLOWSHIP

'Eating Supper With God', the message from Revelation 3:20, shows us how Jesus desires to 'sup' or 'dine' with us. The evening meal in his day was a time of deeper fellowship. The apostle Paul had an intimate fellowship with Jesus which was certainly necessary as he experienced much persecution from outside forces and even spent time in prison for the sake of Jesus and his kingdom. He demonstrated the following for our benefit:

***One can prevail through outward pressures and persecution if
if they have developed their inner resources through fellowship
with God through Jesus and the presence of the Holy Spirit.***

God is faithful, by whom you were **called into the fellowship** of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. - 1 Corinthians 1:9 NKJV

The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the **love** of God and the **communion** of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. - 2 Corinthians 13:14

Paul knew the grace of God and lived by it. He knew that we are not only saved by grace (Ephesians 2:8,9) but we are to **live by grace**. Paul realized that grace is not only **undeserved favor** but it is also **divine power** for living.

For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them - yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

- 1 Corinthians 15:9,10 NIV

Paul was rooted in God's grace and love because God had drawn him away to spend time with him in intimate fellowship. It was an energizing power in his life and God working in his life (Philippians 2:13). Several years ago I made up a bookmark with a picture of Jesus alone with God in prayer and below it I wrote many points to ponder to increase intimacy with God. Take one or two a day and see how God speaks to you. I have put them on the next page in case you want to print them out for yourself.

COMMUNION WITH GOD

1. Signs of God's love that I see today
2. Thank you Lord for
3. Holy Spirit, I see you doing this
4. God, you supplied this.....
5. Is there someone to forgive and bless?
6. Is there a sin to confess or idols to forsake?
7. Holy Spirit, how have I grieved or quenched you?
8. Jesus, you helped me overcome.....
9. What pleased you today, Father?
10. I will see my problem with the eye of faith as I trust in you
11. How can I use my possessions and better use my time for your glory?
12. How can I use my abilities and be creative for your purposes?
13. Anyone you want me to encourage?
14. Any areas of weakness to glory in so your power may be seen in me?.....
15. Lessons I learned today.....
16. I cast these cares on you!.....
17. Areas of contentment.....
18. How can I advance your Name and Kingdom today?
19. Words from you I am living on.....
20. Anybody you want me to pray for today?
21. Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit..I trust in you and love you. You are the greatest!