

Intimacy versus Knowledge by Linda Hoyt, Immanuel Coach

If you are familiar with any aspect of the Immanuel Approach, you know that those of us that receive this ministry are looking for intimacy with Jesus.

Take a look around as you walk through your daily routine, and you will see that most people are innately afraid of intimacy. We are interacting with our smart phones, our smart watches, our smart TVs, our pets, our sports, and our fitness routines, but most of us don't find the time to be intimate with another human being. It seems daunting and like a lot of work! Intimacy has fallen out of favour.

When I think of intimacy, I think of an old-fashioned courtship; when men picked up their date in a horse and buggy, dressed ornately and with lots of fancy words and manners. It seems outdated. Nothing could be further from the truth. One of the definitions of intimacy is: a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving, personal relationship with another person or group.

Through Immanuel prayer, we can have a close, familiar and affectional and loving, personal relationship with Jesus. How often have we heard, as Christians, that knowing God isn't about religion; it's about relationship? Jesus desires relationship with you; intimate, affectionate, loving, personal relationship with you. Jesus wants us to know Him.

Oftentimes, during an Immanuel session, here is such a struggle in me to quit looking to know Him – I just want to know. I want information. I want answers. I want my time with Jesus to be similar to a journalist interviewing someone important. I respectfully ask many questions, all the while holding my tape recorder or note pad in my hand to jot down what is said, so that I can meditate on this knowledge later.

Let's not settle for knowledge. Let's not get impatient by trying to get information and trying to figure it out ourselves. My flesh is at work to prove that I can figure it out. I can't! In His presence is fullness of joy. Knowing Him trumps getting any information on any subject at any time. He desires to be with us, to make Himself known to us. He longs to spend time with us and enjoy us, and He longs for us to enjoy Him. Don't settle for a quick answer or for knowledge about a memory or something that happened. Don't let the quest for information keep you from the intimacy with the lover of your soul.

Take the time to know Him. And it does take time; true intimacy cannot be rushed. If you want information, look at your smart phone at Google or Wikipedia. If you want intimacy with Jesus, go after it with your coach; take the time. You will never be the same.