

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Up In Out - UP

Heather Packett

Introduction

When we look closely at how Jesus lived His life and ministry, we see that the Son of God lead with a balance in His spiritual life. He taught and modelled this balance to His disciples and us. It is a balance between three areas: relationship with God (Up), relationship with each other (In), and relationship with the world (Out). Regardless of where we are in our lives, we need to remember the importance of being in a space of intimacy in His presence. When we passionately pursue our relationship with God, everything else flows out of that place.

Bible Passage

Reading: Psalm 57:1-11

Discussion

1. What is your understanding of relationship with God? How are you with Him?
2. In our reading, David was in a cave for shelter, but he knew that God was his only refuge. What is the difference between shelter and refuge? When you are facing problems, what or who would be your first refuge to go to?
3. What does Psalm 57:2-3 say about David's declaration of faith? How about God and His goodness? Why is it easy for us to forget the truth that God is good when we are in a tough situation?
4. Considering David's position, what do we see if we compare and contrast his stance in verses 4 and 5? What are the things that you often focus on in times of challenge? Why does the act of magnifying God help us in our circumstances?

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5. Why did David say the things he said in verses 7 and 8? How does this change his attitude? What is the personal fuel that always ignites your passion?
6. In verses 9 and 10, David shows us that from a place of intimacy with God, we can't help but declare who God is to those around us. Why? How have you been using the time on your hands to lean closer to God?

Respond

Our effort to build relationship with others and the world must proceed from our relationship with God. Being intimate with Him allows us to know what breaks His heart and understand what He wants us to do as His disciples. Now is the time that God wants us to stop and draw close to Him, to know His heart and see His Kingdom expanded across the earth. Will you take the opportunity? What is one practical step you want to challenge yourself to do?