



SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Thursday, March 4, 2021

Scripture: James 4:8 / 1 Peter 5:7 / Psalm 139

TITLE: Intimacy Over Proximity

When my wife and I were young marrieds, we would hang out a lot with friends. We'd have guests over every weekend. But my wife would come to me and say, "When are we going to have a date night?" I remember thinking - no, I'll be honest, I was stupid enough to say - "Why? I see you every night. We hang out on the weekends with friends. Why do we need to have a date on top of being around each other so much?"

You see, she recognized that proximity is not intimacy. Being near someone does not mean being close to them. Now, I was a fool to not understand that with my wife. I had open access to a real, intimate relationship, but I missed it. Thankfully, I got my act together. We're now the best of friends. But we can do the exact same thing with God. We know of God; however we don't know Him intimately or personally. But we can.

Listen to this:

James 4:8 (NLT) says, "[Come close to God, and God will come close to you.](#)"

The Apostle Peter said, "[Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you](#)" (1 Peter 5:7).

God is there to hold you and walk you through every disappointment, every diagnosis, and every heartache. Why? Because God loves you. And do you know what's amazing about that? God knows everything. He knows everything about you, your past, your thoughts, and your future. And despite your sins, God says, "I love you. I want to know you."

Listen to the words of David, as he describes the knowledge of God in Psalm 139:1-6.

[O LORD, you have examined my heart
and know everything about me.](#)

[² You know when I sit down or stand up.
You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.](#)

[³ You see me when I travel
and when I rest at home.
You know everything I do.](#)

[⁴ You know what I am going to say
even before I say it, LORD.](#)

[⁵ You go before me and follow me.
You place your hand of blessing on my head.](#)

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too great for me to understand!”

God is there. He knows you. He loves you. He wants a deep, personal, relationship with you. The question is, what do you want?

Here is my challenge for you today. If you’ve never come to God through His Son Jesus, do so today. Turn from your sins and turn to Christ. God’s forgiveness and love is there; you simply have to receive it.

If you have put your faith in Christ, but you’ve kept God at a distance, come back to Him today. How do you gain intimacy with someone? You talk. You listen. You engage.

Read Psalm 139. Listen to God. Then talk to Him about anything and about everything. He is there. He wants to know. He wants to know you.

Share what this time with God has done for you and Him. Do this, and Go, win the day.