

Volume 3 - Day 11: Christian Tradition

A major problem with our churches is that we get so engrossed in the mundane, routine, traditional ways, that God and the people get very little personal time together. We meet and greet on the way in and the way out of the building. Wouldn't it be refreshing if church were more like a family gathering at home on a holiday, where we were spontaneously engaged with one another, and God had a chair at the table and was enjoying the meal and conversation with us as though He were there in person?

Certain imperatives are set before us because Christ is risen. The scriptures say, "seek and set your affections on things above and cease to engage in selfish pursuits." Forgive everybody who has offended you as Jesus forgave those who nailed Him on the cross. Abandon yourself to Him by dedicating your time to Him. Time is, after all is said and done, the only currency of genuine affection. Most of us give God only the *left-overs* of our time. If Jesus Christ had given us only His spare time, we would all be forever lost.

We can, if we desire to see things as God sees them, give Him our attentions and affections at all times. We can include Him in our thoughts no matter what we are doing. But it takes practice to break our old habits of ignoring Him in order to develop new ones that keep Him constantly in our thoughts. Imagine as well if our relationships with those who meet us in church were as deeply affectionate as our family gatherings on holidays. Imagine inviting different ones over for after church dinner frequently.

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan