

Volume 1, Day 18: Motivated by Passionate Desire

We do things for and with others not because it is quicker, cheaper, or easier, but because we **want to** be with them. God doesn't **need** us. God **wants** us! While we are with Him, He wants to share what He does in the world. He **wants to be with people who want to participate with him** in it. But our mentality must shift. It must change from, "I've got to do this **for** God." Instead, we can relax into what is God asks us to be part of.

Even my prayer lists in the mornings used to be because I was trained this way. I had a full list of things to pray for people. I wanted God to bless things. I wanted God to give wisdom. I wanted Him to give me stuff. I would pray, pray, and pray again, mostly asking for these things that would bring me comfort or pleasure or respect or influence or that would remove misery from me. And I don't know about most of you, but when I had long lists of prayer requests, most of them were simply repetitious. And God seldom answered them. Occasionally He did. But the bulk of the list continued to grow on.

What I've learned in the past few years is to pray differently. My prayers have shifted to this. "Father, what are you giving me today? Who are you giving me to love? What do you want me to know? What is Your Spirit urging me to do today?" My prayer life was radically altered. I am no longer trying to do things **for** God, even great things **for** God, even trying to pray down revivals or all the gymnastics I had gone through, hoping that God would finally see me. Hoping that He knew I was sincere enough to get Him to change my heart to love Him more.

God already and always wants to resonate with your heart. God wants you to learn to always be aware of Him, in every moment of decision or expression.