

January 11, 2009

Pastor Tim Wood – Renewing Ourselves to the Vision

## It's about God and People: Relating to God (Part 2) 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22

(16) Be joyful always; (17) pray continually; (18) give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (19) Do not put out the Spirit's fire; (20) Do not treat prophecies with contempt. (21) Test everything. Hold on to the good. (22) Avoid every kind of evil.

### 5 Ways to develop our relationship with God:

#### 1. Taking joy in the Lord

Verse 16 - Be joyful always

Luke 10:20 – Jesus said “However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

#### 2. Constantly talking to God

Verse 17 – Pray continually

1 John 5:14-15 - This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

3.

4.

5.

#### Our Vision

To develop eternal relationships with God, His Word and people.

## Small Group & Personal Bible Study

### Memory Verses: 1 Corinthians 15:57

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Discovery Bible Study Exercise:

In your journal or on a piece of paper make three columns and follow these steps:

- Step #1: Read 1 Corinthians 15:57
- Step #2: Re-write in your own words 1 Corinthians 15:57
- Step #3: Write down what you discover from this passage
- Step #4: What will you do to obey what this passage says?

### Daily Meditation Readings:

Day 1 – 1 Corinthians 15:55-58

Day 2 – Psalm 28:6-9

Day 3 – John 14:1-14

Day 4 – John 14:15-31

Day 5 – James 1:22-25



### Lesson: Relating to God

Read each of the five daily meditation passages for this week. After reading each passage, pause, reflect on the verse and answer the questions below. Then go onto the next passage.

1. How does this passage connect with my relating to God?
2. What does this passage teach me about my relationship with God?
3. How would you rate yourself in your pursuit of a love relationship with God based upon this passage?
4. What does this passage remind me I need to do?