

Ways that God uses to bring us into intimacy with Him

I am highlighting a few ways that God uses to bring us into intimacy with Him. I am very sure there are more, these are just the ones on my heart right now, please go and prayerfully read these verses and let God show you situations that He pulled you closer through these things... Even the attacks of the enemy God uses to pull us closer, even the things the enemy meant for bad God will use for good... The ultimate for God in our lives is for us to intimately know Him as Father and to know His love and to love Him and others.. Love is the ultimate goal... Always...

I will in time add on and expand on these points as needed..

Some of these points you might have never before even thought of as God bringing you (or using situations created by Him or enemy to) into intimacy with Him... God love you so much that He will use every situation possible to pull you closer...

1 deep calls to deep (Psalm 42:7 NKJV Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me.)

The presence of God is like wave upon wave, when we experience His love we can actually ask Him to increase like wave upon wave of love.. going deeper each time..

(Also read - "A short and easy method of prayer" by Madame Guyon - the book explains this quite well, it was written +/- 400 years ago so you will easy find it for free download on internet as there is no copyright on it.)

2 be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46:10a NLT "Be still, and know that I am God!")

This refers to choosing to become quiet before God, as we are busy, as we are moving about, to just quiet our souls before God so that he can work in us.

(Also read - "The practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence - the book explains this quite well, it was written +/- 400 years ago so you will easy find it for free download on internet as there is no copyright on it)

3 enter His gates with thanksgiving (Psalm 100:4 NLT Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name.)

This refers to worshiping God in song and dance, God loves worship and He sits enthroned on the praises of His people.

(Read up on the life of David, and read the Psalms.)

4 come boldly (Ephesians 3:12 NLT Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.)

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God expects us to come boldly into His presence, He says they that come to God must do so in faith and come boldly knowing that we cannot earn it, Jesus has already paid the price for us. You can actually pray (in faith believing God will reward) that you come boldly into God's presence and take a step forward, believing that in the spirit you are stepping into the presence of God, I have done this many times and God truly rewards those who come boldly and in faith.

5 two or more gathered (Matthew 18:20 "NLT For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.")

Do not neglect the gathering of the saints, God will very often in times of corporate worship / prayer pull people into intimacy because of this.. He promises that where two or more are gathered in His name He is there... (family worship / prayer times , bible study groups, prayer groups, church etc...)

6 stand at the door and knock (Revelation 3:20 NLT "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.")

God will initiate times of intimacy this way, you might be driving your car, standing in the shower, sitting at work, washing dishes etc and the Holy Spirits presence will just be felt around you.. This is not the intimacy but an invitation to intimacy, a knock at the door, we respond by just in our hearts praying and saying to God that we feel His invitation and we open our hearts....

7 suddenly (Acts 2:2 NLT "Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.")

This is sort of linked to the above point, but there are times when knocking does happen and times when God just suddenly overwhelms us, remember if you in your life have prayed and told God you want Him to come meet with you etc you have already "given Him permission" to open the door and He doesn't need to knock again, He just comes in as our invitation to Him stands... This will also sometimes happen to people who don't know God as a way of encounter.

(Look at Saul's salvation and conversion to Paul, look at Moses's burning bush experience, also suddenly was experienced by the 120 plus in the upper room.. they were waiting, thus the invitation was there God didn't have to knock again).

8 still small voice (1 Kin 19:12-13 And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire [a sound of gentle stillness and] a still, small voice. 13 When Elijah heard the voice, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, What are you doing here, Elijah?)

Like with Elijah's experience most times we will experience God in our day to day walk not in the storms but in the still small voice, this is the inner voice in our hearts / spirits that God uses to communicate with our minds..

(God speaks from the spirit to the mind, the devil tries to speak from the mind to the spirit, huge difference.)

9 dream (Genesis 31:11 AMP And the Angel of God said to me in the dream, Jacob. And I said, Here am I.)

Many Christians will encounter God in dreams, He uses dreams for intimacy, direction, correction, warning etc.. Like Samuel we need to realise we are in the presence of God every time we lay our heads down and an encounter with God is sometimes just as far away as your pillow... If you fear that dreams are not of God or you don't remember your dreams just pray and ask God to shield you from dreams not of Him but that you will remember and understand His dreams. I have many, many times experienced intimacy, direction and warning through dreams.

*(Look at the dream encounters of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph etc)
(Refer to "open visions" and "closed visions" as dreams can also be one or two way)*

10 in our storms (Mark 4:39 NLT When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm.)

Often times in our storms we can, if we call out to God, experience His love calming the inner storms, this is not an experience we strive to look for as we do not purposefully look for storms, but when in storms, there can be such an awesome experience of God's love and presence.

(Just as a footnote on this, the Holy Spirit is the bringer of dreams and the best interpreter, do not use "worldly" dream books to interpret your dreams, I cannot stress this enough, either do so in prayer and wait for interpretation or seek answers in the Bible or in biblically based dream books.)

11 walk with God (Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked with God, and then he was not, for God took him.)

This is linked to "still small voice" we are in a living breathing relationship with God, His Holy Spirit is within us and we walk and talk with God in constant communion...

(Enoch although under old testament was under the Spirit of God and constantly walked with God, are filled with the Spirit of God and under the Spirit of God so we all have the ability to constantly walk and talk with God as enough did. Also read - "The practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence - the book explains this quite well, it was written +/- 400 years ago so you will easy find it for free download on internet as there is no copyright on it)

12 prayer (Matthew 6:6 But you, when you pray, enter into your room. And shutting your door, pray to your Father in secret; and your Father who sees in secret shall reward you openly.)

There are a few things that could flow with this like "still small voice" and "stand at the door knocking" and "come boldly", God loves it when we seek Him in prayer... Prayer must also be a lifestyle and not an occasional idea.

(Also read - "The practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence - the book explains this quite well, it was written +/- 400 years ago so you will easily find it for free download on internet as there is no copyright on it)

13 tongues (1 Corinthians 14:2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. For no one hears, but in spirit he speaks mysteries.)

Tongues is a very intimate method of prayer, allowing the Holy Spirit to pray out of our human spirits the perfect will of God and this will also bring us into intimacy, this is a very good "door" into the presence of God that is available to us 24/7/365.

14 prophets reward (Matt 10:41 He who receives {and} welcomes {and} accepts a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward, and he who receives {and} welcomes {and} accepts a righteous man because he is a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.)

There seems to be some controversy around the meaning of this verse and some using this verse for monetary gain, I don't want to go into that, the only part of this for me is the experiences of the prophets, many times you will find sitting under the teaching of a prophet, listening to their testimonies of experiences with God will actually open you up to similar experiences in your own life, it is a bit like experiencing and anointing over their lives when you submit under their teachings, these will again open you up to more of your own seeking and experiences.

15 close to broken-hearted (Psalms 34:18 The Lord is near the broken-hearted; He is the Savior of those whose spirits are crushed down.)

This can be linked to "in our storms" at times, often in times of despair or loss or broken heartedness we will experience the sweet comfort of the Holy Spirit, this is God comforting His children as a parent would hold a crying child.

(You will often in the Psalms find reference to this, God comforting broken people and many have experienced this in times of tragedy and misfortune.)

16 scripture (John 5:39 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about Me)

There is an intimacy that we can experience in the Scriptures, they are the Living Word of God and a part of who Jesus is, so to get to know Him and come closer to Him, reading Scripture and meditating on it and praying it will definitely do so.

17 sharing cup of suffering (Matthew 20:23a Jesus replied, "You certainly will drink from my cup of suffering...)(Romans 8:17 And if we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His inheritance with Him]; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory.)

This can be linked to "in our storms" and "close to the broken hearted" at times. Jesus never said we will not endure suffering, He instead assures us we will share in His suffering, drink His cup of suffering as well, but He assures us we will share in His glory because of that. In our times of suffering we experience the closeness of the Holy Spirit, He comforts and holds and strengthens us, making us more like Jesus and less like our old selves also making us experience God more real.

(Habakkuk 3:19 The Lord God is my Strength, my personal bravery, {and} my invincible army; He makes my feet like hinds' feet and will make me to walk [not to stand still in terror, but to walk] {and} make [spiritual] progress upon my high places [of trouble, suffering, or responsibility]!)

18 search me o Lord (Ps 139:1 O LORD, You have searched me [thoroughly] and have known me.)

Asking and allowing God to search us is actually a intimacy statement, we open our deepest selves up to the Spirit of God allowing Him to deal with us an way that He see's fit. Times of correction and re-direction can actually be times of deep intimacy too.

19 inspired writing (2 Pet 1:20-21 [Yet] first [you must] understand this, that no prophecy of Scripture is [a matter] of any personal {or} private {or} special interpretation (loosening, solving). 21 For no prophecy ever originated because some man willed it [to do so--it never came by human impulse], but men spoke from God who were borne along (moved and impelled) by the Holy Spirit.)

The Bible is the definitive Word of God, we cannot add to it or subtract from it, but God does still speak through writings today, in our own lives and in writing books the Holy Spirit guides our writing to bring Divine revelation, this is linked to "still small voice" mostly. It refers to us taking pen and paper and God speaking to us, we writing down as He dictates, this can at times be personal and at times be forms of prophecy but at all times intimate.

20 communion (1 Cor 10:16 The cup of blessing [of wine at the Lord's Supper] upon which we ask [God's] blessing, does it not mean [that in drinking it] we participate in {and} share a fellowship (a communion) in the blood of Christ (the Messiah)? The bread which we break, does it not mean [that in eating it] we participate in {and} share a fellowship (a communion) in the body of Christ?)

There is definitely an intimate exchange when we take communion, this is not a symbol or a ritual, it is an actual intimate exchange with Jesus. The next time you take communion first pray and ask God that you will experience Jesus and meet Him and have communion with Him in the communion.

21 closed vision (Genesis 26:2-5 "And the Lord came to him in a vision and said, Do not go down to Egypt; keep in the land of which I will give you knowledge: (3) Keep in this land, and I will be with you and give you my blessing; for to you and to your seed will I give all these lands, giving effect to the oath which I made to your father Abraham; (4) I will make your seed like the stars of heaven in number, and will give them all these lands, and your seed will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth; (5) Because Abraham gave ear to my voice and kept my words, my rules, my orders, and my laws.")

A closed vision, unlike an open vision is one way communication, its God coming close and sharing intimate things with us, but we do not have a conversation, once God has shared what He wants to share the vision is over.

22 open vision (Ezekiel 1:1 "NOW [when I was] in [my] thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was in the midst of captivity beside the river Chebar [in Babylonia], the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.")

(Genesis 15:1-4 "After these things, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, Have no fear, Abram: I will keep you safe, and great will be your reward. (2) And Abram said, What will you give me? for I have no child and this Eliezer of Damascus will have all my wealth after me. (3) And Abram said, You have given me no child, and a servant in my house will get the heritage. (4) Then said the Lord, This man will not get the heritage, but a son of your body will have your property after you.")

Open vision refers to two way communication in a vision, you encounter God and can have an actual two way conversation with Him in this vision.

As I said before I am very sure there are more ways God brings us into intimacy, feel free to research your own as well, I will update this pdf and upload new versions marked as "R" for revised on website as needed.

Love in Christ

Jaco Kruger ~ 11 June 2012

info@pojc.org

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