

Quote

D.L. Moody: "You might as well try to hear without ears, or breathe without lungs, as to try to live a Christian life without the Spirit of God in your heart."

Practical application

- Begin each day with surrender: "Holy Spirit, fill me, lead me, strengthen me."
- Obey the first prompting quickly (apologize, pray, give, stop, speak, serve). Sensitivity grows by obedience.
- When tempted, don't negotiate—draw near to God and resist immediately (thoughts, media, habits).

5) Abide through Prayer and Mission: Communion Bears Fruit

- **Boldness comes:** Abiding produces **confidence** in prayer (alignment with His heart).
- Abiding protects **unity** (love under pressure).
- Abiding produces **fruit** that lasts (character + witness + answered prayer).

Matthew 5:6 (NKJV) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

Psalm 91:2 (NKJV) I will say of the Lord, "He is my **refuge and my fortress**; My God, in Him I will trust."

Quote

E.M. Bounds: "Prayer is not learned in a classroom but in the closet."

Practical application

- Pray in three directions daily: Up (worship), In (Transformation), Out (people/mission).
- Choose one person to intentionally love and serve each week (text, meal, prayer, encouragement, invitation).
- Guard unity: refuse offense, choose humility, assume the best, and pursue peace quickly.

Seeking, Finding, Abiding, Producing Part 2

Sunday, January 25, 2026

1) Seek Him First: Set Your Heart and Hunger for Your God

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these **things** shall be added to you.

John 17:3 (NKJV) And this is eternal life, that they may **know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ** whom You have sent.

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV) But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God **must believe** that He is, and that **He is a rewarder** of those who **diligently seek** Him.

- **The Kingdom is about a Person.** Seeking "first" is choosing relationship with the King.

Deuteronomy 4:29 (NKJV) But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Psalm 63:1 (NKJV) O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.

Psalm 63:2 (NKJV) So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory.

Quote

A.W. Tozer: "God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible. What a pity we plan only the things we can do by ourselves."

Practical Suggestion:

- Decide a daily "first appointment" with God (same time, same place) before media, phone, and tasks.
- Pray a simple seek-prayer: "Lord, I set my heart to know You today—lead me."
- Remove one competing appetite this week (scrolling, TV, late nights) and replace it with 20 minutes of Word + prayer.

2) Abide in His Love: The Atmosphere Where His Will Becomes Possible

1 Samuel 30:7 (NKJV) Then David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, "Please bring the ephod here to me." And Abiathar brought the ephod to David.

1 Samuel 30:8 (NKJV) So David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?” And He answered him, “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.”

1 Samuel 30:18 (NKJV) So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away, and David rescued his two wives.

1 Samuel 30:19 (NKJV) And nothing of theirs was lacking, either small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything which they had taken from them; David recovered all.

James 4:7 (NKJV) Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

James 4:8 (NKJV)

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

- **Wholeheartedness breaks spiritual dullness.** Half-seeking keeps you double-minded; wholehearted seeking produces clarity and stability.

1 John 4:16 (NKJV) And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

The order matters: Known and Believed

1. You come to **know** (through the revelation of Christ, Scripture, and the Spirit's witness).

2. You choose to **believe** (receive it as true for you). Maturity happens when God's love becomes your **default interpretation** of God—so you stop relating to Him through fear, performance, and shame.

Revelation 3:20 (NKJV) Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Psalm 27:8 (NKJV) When You said, “Seek My face,” My heart said to You, “Your face, Lord, I will seek.”

Quote

“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?” — Corrie ten Boom ([Guideposts](#))

Practical application

- Pray this daily (simple, direct): “Lord, I turn my heart toward You. Cleanse me and realign my desires.”
- Do a 3-question check-in: *What am I pursuing? What is pursuing me? What needs to be surrendered today?*
- Establish a “quick draw near” habit: 30 seconds of prayer before every major transition (car, meeting, meals).

3) Abide in His Word: How God Builds the Inner Life to Do His Will

Colossians 3:1 (NKJV) If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:2 (NKJV) Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Colossians 3:3 (NKJV) For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Psalm 63:3 (NKJV) Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You.

Psalm 63:4 (NKJV) Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

Psalm 63:5 (NKJV) My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips.

Quote

John Wesley: “I am a man of one book.”

Practical application

- Use a simple 3-step habit: Read (one section), Meditate (one phrase), Apply (one action).
- When pressure rises, don't default to emotions—default to what God said.
- Practice love on purpose: one act daily that costs your flesh (forgive, serve, encourage, give).

4) Dwell in the Secret Place: Live From God's Presence, Not From Pressure

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus promises us the Helper who teaches, reminds, guides, and empowers.

- **The secret place is where fear loses its voice.** Dwelling produces confidence—not because circumstances are easy, but because God is near.
- **Thirst becomes intimacy when you stay.** Psalm 63 doesn't just describe desire; it describes a soul that keeps returning until it's satisfied in God.
- **Fellowship is daily and real.** Revelation 3:20 is more than salvation language—it's an ongoing picture of communion.

Psalm 91:1 (NKJV) He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Matthew 6:6 (NKJV) But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.