

# **Intimacy**

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## **I. Introduction.**

- A. Our activities should be balanced with periods of solitude.
- B. The grace of God deals with life, liberty and the pursuit of intimacy.
- C. The heart must be established with the grace of God. (Hebrews 13:9)
- D. The believer is alive spiritually. (Ephesians 2:5)
- E. Suffering is as much of a gift as the trusting. Jesus learned obedience through suffering. (Philippians 1:29)

## **II. Areas God has shown grace through pain.**

- A. Lack of control.
- B. Loss of family members.

## **III. Life.**

## **IV. Liberty.**

- A. Performance based acceptance is fatal—it is never good enough. (Galatians 5:1-2)
- B. Receive one another as Christ has received us—unconditionally. Plea with people to lay aside their rule keeping system. (Romans 15:7)
- C. Freedom is to be used to serve one another in love.
- D. Be comfortable giving others the privilege of serving you.

## **V. The pursuit of intimacy.**

- A. Grace shows up when we do not have a rule keeping system for others and when we are free to serve and be served.
- B. It is faith and grace all the way.
- C. One cannot enjoy solitude apart from authentic intimacy. We need people to know us and know how we are doing. (II Corinthians 8:5)

D. We must enjoy being anonymous for God's reasons only.

E. We must administer grace to one another.

VI. Conclusion.

**Application questions:**

1. Why is performance based acceptance fatal?

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2. Who do you have in your life that can pour out grace through intimacy? How can you grow these relationships in a godly way? Explain.

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3. How does the grace of God relate to our life, liberty and pursuit of intimacy? Explain.

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