

KEYS FOR LIVING LIBRARY



THE COUNSELING AND COACHING SERIES

INTIMACY

The Road to Deeper Relationships

What Is God's Heart on Intimacy?

Jesus came to show us the Father. He came to reveal God's heart, showing us the Father's deep desire to have an intimate relationship of oneness with us. This kind of intimacy reflects the intimacy between the Father and the Son.

Before Jesus' betrayal and death, He prayed for His followers—for you. His prayer reveals the kind of close intimacy God desires that we have with Him and with one another.

²⁰ My prayer is . . . ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—

²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity.

Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. . . .

²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

(JOHN 17:20–23, 26)

God knows you completely.

“For your ways are in full view of the LORD, and he examines all your paths” (PROVERBS 5:21).

God loves you deeply.

“I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness” (JEREMIAH 31:3).

God wants you to know Him intimately.

“Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent” (JOHN 17:3).

God wants you to be vulnerable with him, trusting Him with your innermost thoughts and feelings.

“Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge” (PSALM 62:8).

God wants you to know that you’ll find grace when you come to Him for help.

“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need” (HEBREWS 4:16).

God wants you to be a trustworthy person, one whom others can trust with their thoughts and feelings.

“A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence” (PROVERBS 11:13 NLT).

God wants you to have a close and intimate relationship with your spouse.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh” (MARK 10:7–8).

God wants you to have close, intimate, honest relationships with fellow believers.

“Each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body” (EPHESIANS 4:25).

God wants you to have close, intimate, committed friendships.

“There are ‘friends’ who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother” (PROVERBS 18:24 NLT).

God wants you to exercise appropriate caution when establishing intimate relationships.

“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it” (PROVERBS 4:23).

God wants you to tell others that they can have a close, personal relationship with God.

“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God” (2 CORINTHIANS 5:20).

God wants you to look forward to the day when you will see Jesus face-to-face and know Him fully.

“For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known” (1 CORINTHIANS 13:12).

Go Deeper

Want to learn more about this topic? Check out the *Keys for Living Library* to discover biblical hope and practical help on this topic and many more. The *Keys for Living* are designed to help you—and help you help others—overcome difficulties, grow in maturity, and move forward in life.

Thank you for your interest in Hope for the Heart. We pray God will encourage, equip, and empower you with His life-changing truth.

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