

Introduction

This series of studies, which directs you to rest with God in Christ in His kingdom, rather than functioning in the lower kingdoms - the kingdom of darkness or the kingdom of this world - is designed not only for personal or group study, but also to direct you to an intimacy with your Father. There are thirty-one separate sessions that can be used for a personal devotion covering several days, a daily devotion for each day of the month, or as a group study, using one session for each meeting. You may use one session for several days or desire to visit specific studies over and over again as the Lord reveals insights specifically tailored for you. You may decide to visit them one at a time, month after month. However you choose to use these pages, make sure that you allow ample time for quiet interactive prayer with your Father in heaven as the priority of your visits. Wait on Him to show you His heart pertaining to each study.

Each day or several times throughout the day, remind yourself of the text from the pertinent session in a place of quiet. You may even copy the text and keep it with you or give it to your group. Allow it to be a springboard to a new closeness with your Father as you learn to rest in Him. If you can, retreat from any peril or challenge that is attempting to steal your peace and go to an intimate place with God as you read and quiet your heart. He will meet you in your need. He will fill you with Himself, replacing any dread that may be rising up because of worldly circumstances. At first, you may run to Him for answers or consolation, caring only for your own needs to be met. Eventually, however, as you experience the wonder of being with Him and the continual joy that knowing Him brings, your personal retreat with your Father God will become the priority of your life, which you can take with you wherever you go. It will be the lifeblood of your days, a continual place of rest and a resource for all that you need.

Wait with God until He reveals Himself in all of His almighty glory to your inner being. Allow Him to remind you of His overwhelming love for you, that your surrender to Him as God delights His heart. Remember His immense power and perfect plans as they are unfolding. Rest in His presence until you can no longer be robbed of who you are in Christ, and why you are called for this time in history.

Allow Him to reveal new manna each time you visit a study on your way to the rest that He has for you. After a while, you will find that He will Himself guide you to your reserved place on His lap. He will then be your study. Once that kind of presence with Him becomes your daily walk, you may choose to refer to this study only occasionally, possibly to refresh your heart or remember the past intimate moments it stimulated. It is always wise to revisit the power or healing you received from your Father in times past.

Your life is significant to God. Allow Him to bring you to a place where the world and its ways have no hold on you. Allow Him to show you that place of perfect peace with Jesus by reading the Bible verse and body text before you quiet your heart with Him.

Note: Please respect our copyright but feel free to use these studies as needed. Please also understand that these studies are a work in progress. Each is presented "as is" because of the importance of the message and the need to get it to you. Many will be edited and modified as we find time to do so. In your study, we ask you to overlook sentence structure or misspelling. Work with the heart of the message, not the presentation. Should you find any glaring errors other than minor structure or spelling, please contact us at jim@awhitestone.com.