

Created for Relationship: How to Experience Intimacy with God

(Study Guide)

With Don Finto and Tod McDowell

A. Created for Relationship

1. Why were we created? Why are we here?
 - a. Purpose
 - b. Paradigm
 - c. Plan
 - d. John 17:3

2. Intimacy, Defined:
 - a. Close familiarity or friendship; closeness
 - b. In-to-me-see
 - c. Philippians 3:12

3. Genesis to Revelation shows desire for intimate relationship
 - a. Adam and Eve
 - i. Genesis 1:21
 - ii. Genesis 3:8
 - b. Moses (Exodus 25:8)
 - c. Enoch
 - i. Genesis 5:21
 - ii. Hebrews 11:4-6
 - d. David
 - i. II Samuel 6:14
 - ii. I Chronicles 16:1
 - iii. I Chronicles 17:1
 - e. Jesus
 - i. John 3:16
 - ii. John 15:4
 - iii. John 15:15
 - f. Holy Spirit
 - i. John 14:16
 - ii. John 14:26
 - iii. II Corinthians 13:14
 - g. New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:1-6)

B. Hearing God's Voice

1. Confidence that God speaks
 - a. John 8:47
 - b. John 10:16, 27
 - c. Psalm 50:1
 - d. Isaiah 50:3
 - e. Psalm 29

2. Entrance into the Holy of Holies
 - a. Matthew 27:50-51
 - b. Hebrews 10:19-22

3. Recognizing His voice
 - a. Samuel (I Samuel 3:1-10)
 - b. Peter (Matthew 16:18ff)
 - c. Elijah (I Kings 19)
 - d. Jeremiah (Jeremiah 1:4-6)

4. Obedience to His voice
 - a. Balaam (Numbers 22)
 - b. King Saul (I Samuel 15:22)
 - c. Parable of the Banquet (Luke 14:15-23)

5. Opening our hearts through meditation on His Word
 - a. His instructions
 - i. Joshua 1:8
 - ii. Psalm 1:2
 - b. His mighty deeds (Psalm 77:12)
 - c. His promises (Psalm 119:148)

C. Intimacy Breakers

1. The World
 - a. I John 2:15
 - b. I Corinthians 2:12
 - c. Ephesians 2:2

2. The Flesh
 - a. Romans 8:5
 - b. Galatians 3:3
 - c. Colossians 1:21

3. The Devil
 - a. Genesis 3:1-5
 - b. I Thessalonians 3:5
 - c. James 3:14-15

4. Preoccupations
 - a. Luke 10:38-42
 - b. Luke 14:15-20

D. Unlocking the Doors to Intimacy

1. Overcoming unbelief
 - a. Romans 1:19-20
 - b. Psalm 14:1
 - c. Psalm 53:1
 - d. Ecclesiastes 3:11
2. Overcoming rebellion (Luke 15:11-31)
3. Defeating pride (Luke 15:11-31)
4. Overcoming trauma (Matthew 18:21-35)
5. Overcoming the alienation from our own sins (Colossians 1:21)
6. Drawing near to the Perfect Father
 - a. Genesis 3:8
 - b. Isaiah 9:6
 - c. Matthew 1:23
 - d. Matthew 6:9
 - e. Colossians 1:15
 - f. Revelation 21:3