

September 18, 2013

EXTREME FAITH

**How do you
define Wisdom?**

"How do you get wisdom
and once you have
it what do you
do with it?"

What
Wisdom
is there

In a
relationship
with God?

Wise Up

WHO DO YOU HANG WITH?

Living with Wisdom Living with God.

Living with wisdom, living with God, well they kind of go hand in hand. But for most of us at times we choose to well wait to truly live with wisdom and God. We think that we know what is best and we think that we know what is fun. Let's be honest each of us at times have considered that living with wisdom and living with God is not the most fun that we could have. So we put it off and we wait. But lets really take a close look at this and ask this one question. Who do we want to be in relationship with? Cause the way that I see my life being played out is this. The people that I have fun with are the people that I have relationships with. I mean you could have fun with a total stranger, but in the big picture, we have fun with the people that we are in relationship with. So ask yourself another question who do you have fun with? What are their names, what does it look like to have fun with them? Having fun and living in relationship well we were created to be in relationships, and we were created to live a full and abundant life, life to the max! So now ask yourself this question, Who are you in relationship with? Are you in relationship with the people who cut you down and tear you up? Or are you in relationship with the

people who love you and build you up? I would think that most of us would say that we are in relationships with people who love us and build us up. Okay with that being said. Let's see what the Bible has to say about being in a relationship with God. Take a look at this 1 John 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! Wow I want to be there, I want to have love lavished on me, I want to have that experience. I want to have a relationship with God and I want to have fun with Him as I experience His love being lavished on me. When I read that I realize that only good is going to come from God. That He does not lead me to boring things, He leads me to great things. A relationship with Him is worth investing in. Now when I am in a relationship with someone they are the one that I hang out with. They are the one that I love to please. The more that I dig into a relationship with God the more that I find that I live out of wisdom cause He guides me to live in the best place ever! If you are wondering about how to have a relationship with God keep reading the other articles and you will learn more about the best decision ever!

**A
RELATIONSHIP
WORTH HAVING?**

Adventures
with GOD!

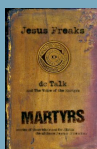
Awesome adventure

Want to have true adventures, want to live life on the edge? Well then dig into a relationship with God. He created adventure and He has adventures for you. Relationship; the foundation of our life, and the people that we do live with. When you do life with God you are choosing a life that will be full of adventure. Just look at the stories in the bible, God does awesome things with the people who are in relationship with Him.

Real Life

Hero's Jubilant Dance for Jesus
Russian Captain
Romania
1940s

"Christianity has become dramatic with us," wrote Pastor Richard Wurmbrand, a leader of the underground church in Communist Romania. "When Christians in free countries win a soul for Christ, the new believer may become a member of a quietly living church. But when those in captive nations win someone, we know that he may have to go to prison and that his children may become orphans. The joy of having brought someone to Christ is always mixed with this feeling that there is a price that must be paid. "When I was still living behind the Iron Curtain, I had met a Russian captain. He loved God, he longed after God, but he had never seen a Bible. He had never attended religious services. He had no religious education, but he loved God without the slightest knowledge of Him. I read to him the Sermon on the Mount and the parables of Jesus. After hearing them, he danced around the room in rapturous joy, proclaiming, 'What a wonderful beauty! How could I live without knowing this Christ?' It was the first time that I saw someone jubilating in Christ. "Then I made a mistake. I read to him the passion and crucifixion of Christ, without having prepared him for this. He had not expected it. When he heard how Christ was beaten, how He was crucified, and that in the end He died, he fell in an armchair and began to weep bitterly. He had believed in a Savior and now his Savior was dead! "I looked at him and was ashamed that I had called myself a Christian and a pastor, a teacher of others. I had never shared the sufferings of Christ as this Russian officer now shared them. Looking at him was, for me, like seeing Mary Magdalene weeping at the foot of the cross or at the empty tomb. "Then I read to him the story of the resurrection. When he heard this wonderful news, that the Savior arose from the tomb, he slapped his knees, and shouted for joy: 'He is alive! He is alive!' Again he danced around the room, overwhelmed with happiness! "I said to him, 'Let us pray!' "He fell on his knees together with me. He did not know our holy phrases. His words of prayer were, 'O God, what a fine chap You are! If I were You and You were me, I would never have forgiven You Your sins. But You are really a very nice chap! I love You with all my heart. I think that all the angels in heaven stopped what they were doing to listen to this sublime prayer from this Russian officer. When this man received Christ, he knew he would immediately lose his position as an officer, that prison and perhaps death in jail would almost surely follow. He gladly paid the price. He was ready to lose everything."



Featured Story
from the book
Jesus Freaks do
Talk and the
voice of the
Martyrs

WISDOM

EXTREME APPLICATION

It's about having a cornerstone, wisdom would tell you to build off a solid and strong cornerstone. When you make your primary relationship with God, then He is the cornerstone. Every other friendship is built from that. God sets the standard and guides you in all of your relationships. How you do family is processed through God. How you do friendship is processed through God. He becomes the cornerstone that we build from. Put wisdom in practice and develop your relationship with God!

Think About it (The Tension of having a relationship with God)

How many of your close friends have a deep growing relationship with God. Sure your XGT Experience friends are running after God. They are doing the same things that you are doing. But chances are that you have other friends that you do life with that are not running after God.

So does that mean you should dump them, nay, no way! But you have to be careful, because if you do not have God as your cornerstone then you might find yourself doing things that you will regret. When God is your cornerstone, then you can be sure there will be tension. Your friends that don't run after God will be confused with what guides you. They will not always understand why you do what you do. That tension is okay, you are living for something different and that is okay. Your decisions are guided by God, your decisions are leading you into something greater. Yes I said something greater. That will cause tension, that will cause questions. But let's face it when we live life with God as our cornerstone we are living a better life than those who do not have God as a cornerstone. Now this is something that we need to handle with humility, and not with judgement. If you handle it with Judgement then you will find that your only friends are those who are running after God and well that will never be life to the full.

So we have to agree that there is tension in having God as a cornerstone of your life and your relationships. We need to point our friends to that cornerstone as well. We need to show them by our lives that God's way is better! That knowing God and hearing His voice is life to the full! If we live that way there will be tension and there will be great opportunities to share with our friends who God is and why we have chose Him to be our cornerstone.

Live in the tension and run after God in the mixture of friends.



DIE IN
BIG IN

Read 1 John 3:1

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!

1. List out five things that you think are fun to do:

Now put an X by the things you have done recently.

2. Give your opinion on the following eight items Y yes / N no?

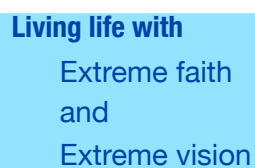
- _____ It is fun being a christian.
- _____ My life is boring.
- _____ Christians have a different kind of fun than non christians.
- _____ I need more excitement in my life because I am a christian.
- _____ When I am having fun, I sometimes do not care what might happen to me.
- _____ I would rather have fun with a few friends than a large crowd.
- _____ Non christian kids don't really have fun they just think they do.
- _____ Most fun things are sinful or unhealthy.

3. I could have more fun if I switched places with---- Why?

4. Read 1 John 3:1 at the top of the page, answer this question how dose that verse make you feel? Circle One or Many.

Happy, Sad, Confused, Overwhelmed, Nervous, Excited, Mad, Jealous,
Humbled, Curious, _____ Write in your own emotion.

Look it over, read the story again, dig into the questions and write out your thoughts...

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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Gaining Wisdom means Trusting His Wisdom more than yours

"Cross This Line" by Ruth

This is where it starts
This is where it ends
You said it and I'm ready
It's the start of something new
And it's creeping inside you
To the heart of who you are
You're gonna cross this line
And now's the time
You're gonna know it
Goin'

Refrain:
Tell me that you want me
Tell me that you see me
I'm giving you everything I have
I'm giving you everything I am
Tell me that you want me
Tell me that you see me
I'm telling you right now
Here I am

You're not giving up
You're not giving in
To the life you knew before this
You're gonna cross this line
And now's the time
You're gonna know it
Goin'

I am always your I give you my heart, my mind, and my soul

I'm telling you right now
Here I am



This song is featured on
Second Hand Dreaming album
by
Ruth