



Lambda Omicron Phi Christian Sorority, Inc.

"Reconciling Queens back into the Kingdom of God" Since 2002

Bible Study

"An Authentic Relationship with God"

Relationship: a connection or bond between persons with some form of community

Authentic: not false or copied; genuine; real

3 Things You Should Know

1. **You and God are suppose to be connected.** John 14:23-24
"Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine bu the Father's who sent Me."
2. **The bond between you and God depends on your level of pursuit for each other.** James 4:8
"Draw near to God and He will draw hear to you."
3. **You and God have something very importantly in common.** Genesis 1:26-27
"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and femail He created them."

Prerequisites to having an authentic relationship with God

Salvation: First you must accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, knowing that he died for your sins. You must also know that if you do not believe that Jesus hung, bled, and died for your sins then you also deny God (1 John 2:23).

Holy Spirit: You must receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the triune God. The Holy Spirit reveals things of God (1 Corinthians 2:10, 13) and the Holy Spirit teaches us (Luke 12:12).

Obedience: We must obey God's word and the will of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 7:15). When you follow God's word and are faithful, He can trust you with His tasks for the kingdom. This can appear as divine favor when you humble yourself to be used by God freely.

Time: You must take the time to read your bible to know God and His divine character. You must also pray (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Be intimate with God. Give Him all of your worries (1 Peter 5: 6-7). After praying you must TRUST God. Know that He is a God of His Word (Isaiah 55:11).

Harmony: There must be harmony in your relationship with God. You must be able to live on one accord with God's word. You must also be able to honor Him through praise and thanksgiving (Psalm 150:6).

8 Components of an Authentic Relationship

Foundational Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:16-18

“I will dwell in them, and walk among them. I will be their God. Therefore, come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

1st Component: “I will dwell in them” CONSUMMATION

- Consummation means to bring to completion as a sign of oneness & unity.

- a). **Genesis 2:24** Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

When a man and a woman marries, there is a consummation that takes place after the ceremony. When you received salvation, that was a ceremony of denouncing the world and a proclamation to unite with God. The sexual intercourse after the ceremony for two married people is a sign that the two has became one flesh. When God dwells in you (baptism of the Holy Spirit), there is the sign that you are now united with God. Whe you inhabit God’s Spirit, it changes everything. Your soul (mind, will, emotions, & intellect) is tied to God.

- b) **1 Corinthians 7:3-4** Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

When you get married, your body does not belong to you but to your spouse and vice versa.

Is God just your Savior or have you actually made Him your Lord?

2nd Component: “And walk among them” COMMUNICATION

- Communication means to converse intimately; to exchange thoughts and feelings; to impart.

- a) **Philippians 4:6-7** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Every relationship is founded on communication. If there is no authentic communication, then there is no authentic relationship.

- b) **Psalm 85:8** I will hear what God the Lord will speak, For He will speak peace to His people and to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Communication is a two way street where both parties are continually considering each other’s thoughts and feelings about life. Do you take the time out to listen and consider what God says about your life after you have spoken to Him?

- c) **1 Peter 5:7** Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

You must learn how to cast all your cares to Him and to express yourself transparently about how you feel. Otherwise, you will suppress it and become "anxious" (Proverbs 12:25) and never gain wisdom from God about how to handle that situation. Trust in the Lord with ALL your heart and lean not on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-7).

- C) Matthew 6:33 But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

When you seek God's way of doing things, everything you ask or desire will be added to you.

3rd Component: "I will be their God" SUBMISSION

- Submission means to yield oneself to the will or authority of another; to commit to the consideration or judgment of another.

- a) Isaiah 55:8-9 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

In order to submit to God, you must first realize that you do not know everything. You are the creature. God is the creator.

- b) James 4:7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Submitting to God means that you have made Jesus your Lord and have denounced yourself off the throne. Your worldly ways have given the devil a place in your life and that is why you cannot resist him unless you submit to God.

- c) Romans 8:5-11 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

If you do not submit to God, we can conclude then that you will end up independent, stubborn, and rebellious. In a marital relationship, if you do not submit to each other, both parties will become independent. What is the purpose of two becoming one flesh if both parties still want to be their own person?

4th Component: "Therefore, come out from among them" ABANDON/SURRENDER

**- Surrender means to relinquish possess of or control of to another because of demand or force; to give up.
- Abandon means to leave and stop looking after; to cease to use or occupy; to leave behind.**

- a) Philippians 3:7-9 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith.

In order to walk away totally from your old life and old lovers, you must simply walk away and abandon every bad experience and past sins. In a marital relationship, both people must surrender their old life and transition into a new way of living.

- b) Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

You died on the cross when Jesus died on the cross. The only reason some past sin, bad memories, or past experiences (unforgiveness) still exists presently is because you haven't abandoned it or surrendered it totally to God. You haven't died yet. The reason why divorce is so rampant is because one or both parties has forgotten how to submit. Lack of submission divides the relationship.

- c) Psalm 143:10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

You must abandon everything you were taught according to the world and learn Christ.

- d) John 5:30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent me.

A relationship must involve submission of both parties. In order for a relationship to exist, there must be a level of unselfishness. A relationship should be born from unconditional love. A relationship with the world (devil) is born out of impure motives. The world will use you until they cannot use you anymore and the devil will easily go from tempter to accuser. But God does not want you to be controlled, but to be moved by His real love for you.

5th Component: "And be separate, says the Lord"

EXCLUSIVITY

- Exclusive means not divided or shared with others.

- a) Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

When a man and a woman is married, they are exclusive to each other. No other past or new lovers should exist. They are completely undivided and only shares themselves with each other. Any other worldly desire that captures your attention and keeps it is a form of spiritual adultery to God (idolatry).

6th Component: "Do not touch what is unclean."

PASSION

- Passion is any powerful emotion or appetite; to have an ardent adoring love for something; to make something the object of your affection.

- a) 1 Corinthians 7:1-2 Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.

When you touch something, it has a tendency to arouse your interest. Your interest may lead to passion which causes that thing or person to be the object of your affection instead of God. Watch what you touch or engage yourself in. God had such a passion for us that he came in the flesh passionately and intentionally not to sin so that He could save you from it and have a passionate relationship with you.

- b) Colossians 3:5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth; fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Having another lover in the form of a person, place, or thing is idolatry. God should always be the object of your affection.

- c) Romans 1:26; 28 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions, for even their women exchanged the natural use of for what is against nature. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting.

If you don't keep your relationship with God as the object of your affection, something else will have your attention and will cause you to do things which will disrupt your relationship with Him.

7th Component: "And I will receive you." INTIMACY

- Intimacy is marked by close acquaintance and familiarity; coming from or characterizing ones deepest nature; to know the person of the person in a private and secretive way.

- a) John 17:24 Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

God and you should be experiencing each other on a regular basis. You should be experiencing the love of God everyday.

- b) John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

Even when you depart, Jesus has prepared a place for you so that you can remain close to Him forever.

8th Component: "I will be a Father to you and you shall be my sons and daughters" FAITHFULNESS

- Faithfulness is the condition of being loyal to a person as in covenant.

- a) 2 Timothy 2:13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

God will always be faithful to you because when He sees you, He sees Himself. He cannot deny Himself. God's love is eternally set in forever to be unconditional.

- b) 2 Thessalonians 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

God's relationship to you will always be to provide, protect, and preserve. The only way that is broken is if you break covenant with Him.