

The Essence of Our Faith

A
as understood by
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An Adventure

People ask me these days, “How are you doing?” Here’s my answer: “Well it works this way. Any day you wake up is a success already. After that everything else is an adventure with the Lord!”

The content of these pages has been an adventure for me, and my hope is we’ll discover more adventures together. Someone may ask, “Just how will that work?”

Excellent question! Because part of this journey is seeking to go further than encouragement about what it means to be followers of Christ. On this journey, part of the adventure is discovering how these things work, and why they work the way they do.

Hopefully, the combined thoughts of the chapters in this book will help provide what God desires for each one of us. The intent is to address key subjects, and as we move along this journey to make progress in getting to know God, and to more fully experience the miraculous and intimate relationship the Lord desires to have with each one of us.

My search has also been about the simplification of the truth about God. How do we avoid some of the complexity usually associated with our faith in God?

Some people may think that trying to live as Christ wants us to is like chasing a carrot, hanging from a string on a stick in front of us that we can never reach. No matter how fast we run, or how hard we try grabbing it we never do. That is not what God intends.

We’ll be working on understanding how God wants this to work in our lives, and why. We approach this journey knowing that God will never withhold from us what is needed to do His will.

Why write this at all? Because God has given me the responsibility to share what He’s freely given to me. God has not stopped compelling me to do so. This an attempt to share with all interested persons what the Lord leads me to write as best as is possible.

What really is the essence of our faith? What’s the essence of our God intended relationship with Him in Christ, and how does it work?

While on this journey together some may feel at times that our current way of thinking about something is being challenged. This journey is not intended to be difficult, but we may be challenged by some new perspectives the Holy Spirit reveals to us.

Be sure of one thing right now. What we all need is not my thoughts, but what God desires to teach us as a part of a prayerful dialogue with Him that may be encouraged by this written content.

To all the people who assisted me in this effort, please accept my deep gratitude for your excellent assistance! The two words, “Thank You” do not seem sufficient to contain all of my appreciation and love for each of you.

God is ready to work with each of us through the actions of the Holy Spirit in the lives of every person who reads this book. Trust God to teach any person willing to learn more about being in relationship with Him. May we all discover more than we thought was possible together!

The stronger our relationship is with God, the greater our understanding of our oneness with God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and the more intimate our relationship with Him becomes. This is the intended natural result of being in relationship with God.

Being a follower of Jesus Christ is all about relationships. Our relationship with God, with one another in Christ Jesus, with those who don't have a relationship with God through Jesus, and with the world around us. Truly knowing God has a different purpose than knowing about Him. It means to intimately know Him Who has been from the beginning.

My hope in Christ guides my prayers now and in the future for all who might share this journey with me. May God's will be done in each of our lives as we discover the essence of our faith, moment by moment together with God.

A Few Notes About Our Approach

We may already have noticed that some words like "Truth" were capitalized outside of the grammatical standards. This is to emphasize the nature of what the word is intended to reference, and a part of differentiating between its common meaning, and the intended meaning of the word as used within its context. If we can just color outside the lines a bit, and not get too upset the intent will hopefully become obvious.

As we read there may be some things that make us stop and process an idea within the context of our current perspectives. It's probably best to take that time rather than rushing on to the next sentence. Perhaps it's best to think of this journey as a stroll, or walk rather than a jog, race, or marathon.

If any of us find an error, a sentence, or phrase we feel need's to be changed, please let me know by sharing a comment with me. It's simply obvious there's a need for me to ask everyone's forgiveness ahead of time.

Please accept my deep appreciation for taking the time to read what's written. May God guide each one of us, and may He be eternally praised!