

From Encounter To Intimacy

As in life every relationships must grow and the same is true with our relationship with God. Last month, God gave us a call to be faithful in our daily encounter with him. Today, He has ordained that we take those daily encounters and trust Him to transform them into intimacy.

The Bible says in Psalms, “ **He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty” Psalms 91:1 NKJV.** The Hebrew word yashab is where we get the English word dwell and the English word abide. In Exodus, God told Moses to tell the Israelites, “**And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them” Exodus 25:8 NKJV.** The Bible also tells us in Psalms, “**But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel” Psalms 22:3.** What are these scriptures telling us? There is a spectrum that everyone travels on in our relationship with God. The spectrum starts at the encounter stage, then it goes through the intimacy stage to where God take us through encounters that we have had with Him to an intimate and satisfying relationship with Him and these turn into praise where God sets up His throne.

The Hebrew word yashab also means to set up a seat. What happens when we worship and praise at church or wherever we might be, God sets up His seat and dwells or lives right where we are. This is why the enemy tries to stop our worship and stop our praise because when we don't praise, God has no where to set up His seat. This does not only apply to church, it applies to anywhere we find ourselves, at work or at school etc. When I was in high school I would have praise service inside of the car before I went into school. Our friends would go in the school and tell Marcus that they heard me in the car and Marcus came out to the car and got me. I would not trade anything for what I felt in that car and what God did in that car. Before I went into school, God was setting up His seat and giving me victory before I stepped into the side door of my high school. Let me challenge you, the next time you step into any situation; prepare first by praising and allowing God to set up His seat in your praise. This is how you will get victory in your life because God dwells in the praises of His people.