

Don't Judge Father's Nearness By What You Feel

We tend to assess spiritual events and activities by how we feel. That's the natural way we operate in life, but it's not the way of the spiritual realm. Sure, you can get sensations and feelings with spiritual encounters and with spiritual phenomena, but that's a bonus, not the indication that something's happening or that we're doing it right.

Experiencing Father's love is a sensation we feel and enjoy, because he wants us to get connected with him, so we desire to remain there in his presence. The reason for feeling his love and presence in such a wonderful way is our need to experience things with our natural senses as human beings. Here's how it's usually described:

“The presence of God inside of you can be felt tangibly. Much like the way the sun warms your body on a summer day, His presence bathes you with radiance from the inside. It can be felt from the moment you wake to the moment you go to sleep, if you choose to acknowledge it.

You carry the Spirit of God inside of you. Every fiber of your being is pulsating with glory—a spiritual reality that can be experienced physically. That doesn't change when you lose focus, but losing focus will affect your awareness of it.

Though this internal encounter is always available to you, busyness and distraction will dull the sense of His presence.”¹

However, as we spiritually mature, things should begin to change as we learn to interact and experience the spirit realm the way it connects with our spirit, not with our mind, soul and body. That will mean that there are less sensations and feelings, while we continue with the experiences. We then learn not to chase sensations, but connections with the Trinity and angels. Interactions and transaction will take place, but there won't be something emotional that makes us feel good. For example: We learn to come into Father's presence whenever we want to and we know we're there because we tangibly experience it, even though there's no sensation.

This change only happens as we mature and understand that our feelings have nothing to do with spirit-to-Spirit interaction. To bring that change into effect, we need to set our heart and mind on not wanting sensational experiences. Of course, that's hard, because we've programmed ourselves to use our soul to judge things by what we feel, ever since we were born.

Being able to make that transition away from soul sensations is helpful for our spiritual development because our trust (faith) becomes based on who we are as beloved sons and who the members of the Trinity are. It's like the complete trust passengers have in the pilot of an aircraft – there's no emotion there, just TRUST that the pilot will get them safely to their destination.

One of the many areas we falter in is our need to constantly feel that Father's with us or to have him reassure us that he is. That's not faith, that's fear. A sign of maturing spiritually, is getting past the need to feel. That's when we step out in trust, in everything Father has taught us, and we just believe his spiritual realities – that's faith.

Brian Simmons recently wrote about this:

“Don't judge His nearness by what you feel. Take a deep breath and believe He is there. Allow His love to consume you and to absorb every thought, feeling, and emotion that overwhelms you.

His peace doesn't make sense—it's beyond understanding. When you live in the awareness of His overshadowing presence, there's a silent conversation continually happening between you and Him.

Prayer doesn't always vocalize itself; you simply become prayer. You live in a state of constant communion with the Lord that is deep and real, even if neither of you speak.”²

1 – Brian Simmons (29-7-2022) “The Presence of God in Your Life” [distributed e-newsletter]

2 – Brian Simmons (13-6-2022) “Don't judge God's nearness by what you feel” [distributed e-newsletter]

Take a deep breath and start to believe, rather than always looking for experiences. There's no faith involved in tangible experiences.

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