

July 20, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

Ex. 13:21-22 By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people. (NIV)

One of the blessings of living in the abundant life God has for us is experiencing the presence of God. There are very special times when I can sense His presence so much closer and sweeter than others. Sometimes it is in times of worship, all by myself, where I can just revel in His mighty power. He comes and moves my spirit to join with His. He moves me from the inside out. Sometimes it is when I meditate on His character. I think of all the things He has done in my life, my family's life, our church's life, and even in this present world. I remember that He is slow to anger and abounding in love. I begin to count my blessings and acknowledge them verbally to Him. This is what the LORD wants us to do, to dwell in His presence and acknowledge Him constantly. This is why He led His children all of those days through the wilderness. He wants us to know that He will never leave us or forsake us.

We also have a part in this. We should expect His presence. We now have a new heart and a new mind. We must decide daily (literally moment by moment) to walk in Him and with Him. We can begin this process by deciding to spend time with Him every day in worship, in His word, and walking in His way. Worshipping Him reminds us of His power. Walking in His word teaches us His ways. Obeying is leading directs us in His presence and fellowship. I mentioned the fact that the Holy Spirit is always speaking. He is not silent. We must focus on Him and tune out the blare of the world's noise. This can only happen as we set our minds and our hearts on Him. These daily choices will form in us a passionate heart for Him. ***Pv. 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the LORD. (NIV)***

Dear LORD, shows us Your glory today. Help us to see You like You really are. When this happens, everything else will fall into place. We want to see You, to know You, and to follow You completely today. Help us LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen