

## **Fan Into Flame: A Desire For God**

Gen.5.21–24; Heb.11.5–6

### Intro

1. The purpose of the series – look into the lives of some little known characters to stir in your heart a greater desire for God and the things of God.
2. Mt.5.8 – Happy are the pure in heart for they will see God.
3. Gen.5.21–24. Context – “walking in close fellowship”. Not “before God” – conscious & aware of God’s presence; “after God” – he served and obeyed God and did what he required.

### Walking In Fellowship With God

#### God is eagerly Accessible

- A. After Adam sinned, there wasn’t a definitive separation between God and man, but rather a separation between man and the tree of life. Sin didn’t lock God in the garden, but God locked man from the tree of life. God continued to interact with mankind – Cain, Abel, Noah, the Tower of Babel, Abraham & Enoch.
  - a. God wasn’t hidden away, like some recluse in a cave. Enoch didn’t have to pull Him out into the sun. God wanted to interact with Enoch. In fact, God wants to have fellowship with us more than we do. He is not hiding from you trying to make it difficult. But, He is waiting to see if you will pursue Him.
- B. Stop the nonsense that says, “God is mad at me...He’s not talking with me...I could never have a relationship like that...He’s turned His back on me.” God turned His back on only one person, so He would never have to turn His back on you!
- C. God never intended for you to feel alone. He isn’t hiding from you or holding out on you. He has give you the HS, so that you won’t feel like an orphan and the spirit of sonship and nothing separates you from His Love.

We must take the step

- A. He is not hiding from you trying to make it difficult. But, He is waiting to see if you will pursue Him. He gave Adam & Eve a choice; the Israelites; the disciples a choice; even Jesus during His temptation & trial. The Father is looking for voluntary lovers.
  - a. People ask, “Why didn’t God stop this or that...?” I don’t want to get into the reason why, but what if He did? What if He personally gave every hungry person food...fixed every problem...healed every dying person? What kind of relationship would you have with God? It would be a conditional relationship. “I follow God b/c what He does for me.”
  - b. He wants people to love Him not primarily b/c of what He does, but b/c of who He is.
  - c. Is that the kind of relationship you want your spouse to have with you or your kids to have with you? I love you mom b/c of what you do for me. If that’s the kind of relationship you have, then what happens when you don’t respond to your spouse or child the way they desire? They pull back and begin questioning whether or not you really love them.
    - i. You didn’t hold back from the child b/c you didn’t love him, but b/c you wanted to see if they truly loved you.
- B. People look at natural disasters, war, poverty, personal heartache and question whether or not God really is good. God is watching for those like Enoch who will voluntarily choose to follow him in good or bad times. Enoch lived during a very desperate time – Gen.6 – and He consistently followed God
- C. It wasn’t always this way with Enoch. Notice v.21f. He lived 65 years w/o actively pursuing God, but something happened at the birth of Methusaleh – note “After the birth of M, Enoch walked with God.” Before M birth, Enoch knew about God (4.26), but wasn’t seeking God
- D. God uses critical junctures in your life as opportunities to pull you towards himself. Is anyone here at a pivot point, where something

has to give? Or are there changes happening that are making you uncomfortable? Etc?

- a. After the earthquake in Haiti, people turning to God. Jesus said when tragedy happens, repent or change & turn towards God (L.13).
  - b. Situation Changes are positive or negative events that provide us the chance to know the Lord or walk from Him in frustration.
- E. God spoke to Cain & gave him an opportunity to get close to Him. Cain wanted the material blessings of God that Abel was experiencing. Not realizing, Abel's real blessing was knowing God. Cain rejected God's invitation and ended up being severely disciplined by God.
- F. Some have rejected the opportunities and God is giving you another chance. Don't listen to the lie that says, "You missed it and it's over. He won't use me again..." Understand, it won't be the same, but it's not over!
- G. One of the actions you can do to step towards God is praise Him even when you either don't feel like it or don't have a worship song playing – Linda Fields.
- H. Note how long he walked with God – 300 years. What would captivate Enoch for so long?
- a. He earnestly/sincerely sought God – Heb.11.6.
  - b. Think about your own Christian walk & your earnestness in seeking God. How do you get to the point where you are fascinated and walking with God every day?
  - c. What if we believed everything the Bible said about God's love for His children were true? I'm not saying you hoped it to be true, but that you knew it was true in your experience. How different would your life be?
  - d. WE need a personal and ongoing revelation of two things: How God views me as His child & His Son's bride and His intense, affectionate, reckless love for me.
  - e. The story of the Prodigal Son & Older Brother. The Prodigal returned and felt he had to pay back his dad – He thought his

dad would be angry & disappointed. He had feelings like – I'm unworthy, make things up to Him, squandered my life; the older felt he had been a faithful servant and not appreciated – I've served. They saw themselves as servants, rather than sons.

- f. Serving God is fun for a while, but if this is your primary view of God is that He's Lord and we're servants sent to do His work, then you're headed to burn out, disappointment, and apathy. You will see yourself as never quite matching up. Those seasons when you're faithful you will feel good, but in those times of testing you think I'm a failure...You'll want to go back not realizing there is a better way of relating to God.
- g. God is our Master & Lord, but I relate to Him as Father. I do serve him, but not as a servant, but rather as a child. A servant works to please His Master; a child serves out of joyful love for His Father b/c he knows he is well pleasing.

God will reward you!

A. He rewarded Enoch several ways.

- a. Enoch was so close to God that God gave him special revelation. Jude 14–15 came directly from the Book of Enoch. Most don't believe the book is as entirely inspired like Scripture, and that portions were added by other authors who weren't inspired by God. Based upon these verses and a few others, it seems that some of the revelation was given to Enoch by God.
- b. Taking him into His presence w/o dying. Only two people who never died – Elijah & Enoch (Jesus died). Some believe these will be the two witnesses who will come to earth during the end times – Rev.11.
- c. He had a personal revelation of God's Heart – Ps.103.7.
  - i. Do we want to know God's power or God's heart?

- ii. It's not a revelation of His character so you can write about it, but a revelation of His character so you can walk in it.
- iii. What Enoch, Noah, Moses and Jesus had wasn't limited to them?

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