

## Articles and Sermons :: The Secret of Fellowship - Murray

### The Secret of Fellowship - Murray - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2011/7/2 21:29

BELOVED BRETHREN—The more I think of and pray about the state of religion in this country and all over the world, the deeper my conviction becomes that the low state of the spiritual life of Christians is due to the fact that they do not realize that the aim and object of conversion is to bring the soul, even here on earth, to a daily fellowship with the Father in heaven. When once this truth has been accepted, the believer will perceive how indispensable it is to the spiritual life of a Christian to take time each day with God's Word, and, in prayer, to wait upon God for His presence and His love to be revealed.

But how can Christians be taught this lesson and be persuaded to live in obedience to it? The first thing is that the minister himself must be convinced of the great need for daily fellowship with God and must grasp his calling to train his people to habits of prayer. His hearers must be brought under the impression through his preaching that it is not enough at conversion to accept forgiveness of sins or even to surrender themselves to God. That is only a beginning.

The young believer must understand that he has no power of his own to maintain his spiritual life. No, he needs each day to receive new grace from heaven through fellowship with the Lord Jesus. This cannot be obtained by a hasty prayer or a superficial reading of a few verses from God's Word. He must take time quietly and deliberately to come into God's presence, to feel his weakness and his need, and to wait upon God through His Holy Spirit to renew the heavenly light and life in his heart. Then he may rightly expect to be kept by the power of Christ throughout the day, through all its temptations.

It has been my aim in writing this little book to help Christians to see the absolute necessity of fellowship with the Lord Jesus. Without this, the joy and power of God's Holy Spirit in daily life cannot be experienced. Many of God's children long for a better life but do not realize the need of giving God time day by day in the inner chamber to renew and sanctify their lives by his Spirit. Oh that every minister would lead and help those under his charge to grasp this great truth.

Beloved brethren, meditate on this thought: The feeble state of my spiritual life is mainly due to the lack of time day by day in fellowship with God. The minister is the one who must teach this lesson to his people, and encourage them to believe that a different life is possible. New life will dawn in many a soul as a result of time spent in prayer alone with God.

If you should find a blessing in reading this little book, I ask that you share the blessing with others. If you have accepted the message that the Lord Jesus will, from day to day, grant you His presence and love, pass it on to others. However weak and impotent you feel, your faith will be strengthened as you help others to realize their need of fellowship with Jesus daily. As we think of the need of our country and church, as we think of souls around us, as we think of the extension of God's kingdom, we ask you, O Christians, to help us find volunteers, who, as true Soldiers of the Cross, will persevere continually in prayer till God pours out His blessing upon us.

-from the introduction to The Secret of Fellowship by Andrew Murray