HOW RFI	LATIONSHIPS	WORK:	Presence.	Progress	& Process
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09/30/14

I. <u>ONE THING</u>—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

- A. Review your class notes from Tuesday.
 - Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. If you want to add details to your notes, you'll find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. (www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com).
 - Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

B. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

III. PERSONALIZATION

- A. <u>Amazing blessings flow from the Presence of the Lord!</u> Meditate on the promises and principles below. Understanding these truths can provide powerful motivation as you learn to practice His presence and engage in authentic worship.
- Joy and the path of life: Ps 16:11 NIV You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.
- Grace, mercy, and help: Heb 4:16 NLT— So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.
- Refreshment: Acts 3:19 NAS-- Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord
- o Rest: Ex 33:14—"My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."
- Peace: Phil 4:6-7 MSG-- Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.
- Transformation: 2 Cor 3:17-18 NIV-- Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
- B. <u>Examine your current circumstances</u>, being aware of the principles we covered in class this week. Prayerfully consider the following and record your thoughts:
 - 1. Would you characterize your relationship with God as having steady growth? Why or why not?
 - 2. What is an honest estimate of the amount of control you have given to God and the amount that you have kept for yourself?
 - Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal issues from your childhood (or any time in your past) that may be responsible for keeping you from making progress in your spiritual life.
 - 4. Do you recognize any circumstances where God could be doing the painful work of rebuilding your character? Ask Him to confirm, to change you, and to sustain you with a willing spirit.

C. <u>Get to know God better</u> by meditating on His names. Take time each day to focus on different characteristics of God. Think about who you are because of it. Record your insights in the space provided.

Because God is:

- Elohei Mikkarov, The God Who Is Near (Jer 23:23) → I can live my life in the full awareness of Your presence...
- Jehovah Immeka, The Lord Is With You (Jud 6:12) → I am strengthened by Your mighty power living inside of me...
- Immanuel, God With Us (Is 7:14) → I am helped because You came as a man so that You can identify with and aid me in my weakness...
- Jehovah Shammah, The God Who Is There (Ezek 48:35) → I am freed from worry about my past, my present, and my future by realizing that You were, You are, and You always will be there...
- D. Continue to get in touch with your human spirit and exercise its faculties this week by applying these principles:
 - 1. At the beginning of your day, take a few minutes to connect with God:
 - <u>Pr 8:34 NAS</u>--Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at my doorposts.
 - Start with a Scripture, reading for content. Soak in the words and images for a few quiet minutes.
 - Pray the passage back to God. Ask Him to strengthen your <u>spirit</u> with His Holy Spirit so that your spiritual eyes and ears are doing the listening and watching.
 - Take a moment to capture your experience on paper. If you desire, draw out more richness by journaling your impressions and thoughts.
 - 2. <u>Throughout your day</u> take the opportunity to enjoy God's presence. Go to your Secret Place to connect with Him <u>spirit-to-Spirit anytime</u>, anywhere.

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