

## BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES



### 1) The Lord is **always** with us.

Actually this is something that most believers will say--and few of them act like it. But-- it is Biblical.

We thrive in life by interacting with God and His people in loving relationships. In the Old Testament God reminds the patriarchs, prophets, and people that He Himself would be with them and guide them. And then in the New Testament, Jesus came to be with us in the flesh. Matthew 1:23: ... and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us), a prophecy from the book of Isaiah.

And Jesus Himself promises in Matthew 28:20: "I am with you always, to the end of the age." We have a God who is here, now. Abiding in Christ is talked about frequently in the Bible as a good way to live—we could definitely say the best way to live. The fruit we bear in our daily lives shows whether we are abiding in Christ. (John 15:5)

In John 14:21, Jesus says, "Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him." (NIV)

And in Revelation 3:20, Jesus says, "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you and you with me." (NRSV).

The Lord has been present with us in every past experience and the Lord is present with us now.

### 2) God **always** wants to connect to us.

He always wants to establish an interactive connection with us. He wants us to perceive His presence, receive from Him, be with Him. Psalm 139:1-18

Many Christians have the sense that God only wants to talk to us or be with us when we are behaving "right". When we are doing everything right. When we have won His approval. But this is NOT the love of God. He knows our weaknesses better than we ourselves. He sent His only Son "while we were still sinners" because of His great love and His desire to have a relationship with us.

And even with those who have not yet come into a relationship with Him, He is calling and working in their lives. Yes, even they can hear His voice if they are attentive to it.

If we cannot connect with the Lord, there are blockages in the way which must be removed. But...God still wants to be active in our lives.

Rom 8:38-39 "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Micah 7:7 ...my God hears me.

The average person can establish a two-way, inter-active connection with God. This is not just for pastors or priests or those whom we see as "really good", spiritual people.

### 3) God is **always** good and loving.

Often we "say" we believe God is good and loving. But many times our actions, words and prayers, "speak" something else. If we do not have a true understanding of who God is, then maybe we will not want God to be with us! But through the Bible we see that God is

always glad to be with us. He is tender and compassionate towards our weaknesses. He works for our good. He loves us deeply.

Psalm 119:68 You are good and do good.

Psalm 100:6 For the Lord is good and His mercy endures forever

Romans 8:38-39 What can separate you from God's love? From Christ's love?

Eph 3:18-19 "Then you will be empowered to discover what every holy one experiences—the great magnitude of the astonishing love of Christ in all its dimensions. How deeply intimate and far-reaching is his love! How enduring and inclusive it is! Endless love beyond measurement that transcends our understanding—this extravagant love pours into you until you are filled to overflowing with the fullness of God!" TPT