

## ***What Does The Bible Say About Intimacy With God?***

There are many similarities between having a good marriage relationship with your spouse and having a good personal relationship with God. In the Bible, there is a lot of language that refers to marriage in describing a personal relationship with God. Those who receive and profess Jesus as their Lord & Savior are referred to as the "*bride of Christ*". In Jeremiah 2:2 (*Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.*) God says "I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the desert"; in [Jeremiah 3:14](#) (*Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion*) God speaks to His people after they had left Him: "Return, faithless people, declares the Lord, for I am your husband" and in [3:20](#) (*Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel, saith the LORD.*) "But like a woman unfaithful to her husband, so you have been unfaithful to Me." We are God's 1st love, and He wants to be our 1st love and have an intimate personal relationship with us.

"God who has *called* you into *fellowship* with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord is faithful."

[1 Corinthians 1:9](#) (*God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*)

"**Koinania** (*Koi-n'a'*)" fellowship: "the fullest possible *partnership* and *fellowship* with God, and with others in the church. *Intimate fellowship* with God and His Son Jesus produces this type of fellowship and unity in a church (and in a marriage & family). *Only God* can produce this genuine koinania fellowship, love, and unity. - Henry Blackaby

These are some vital things that are essential to having a good relationship with God:

### **- Commitment:**

[Deuteronomy 5:7-9](#)

<sup>7</sup>*Thou shalt have none other gods before me.*

<sup>8</sup>*Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:*

<sup>9</sup>*Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me,*

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[Revelation 2:2-5](#)

<sup>2</sup>*I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:*

<sup>3</sup>*And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.*

<sup>4</sup>*Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.*

<sup>5</sup>*Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

**(Be Faithful):**

[Psalm 100:5](#) – *(For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.)*

[Jer. 2:1-2](#)

<sup>1</sup>*Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,*

<sup>2</sup>*Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.*

[3:6](#)

<sup>6</sup>*The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot.,*

[I Chron. 28:9](#)

<sup>9</sup>*And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.*

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*Acts 2:42...* ("they *devoted* themselves...")

<sup>42</sup>*And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

(the Greek word for **devoted** means to "*latch on and refuse to let go*"; they "latched on" to Jesus and fully committed themselves to Him)

God is fully devoted & committed to us, and His love is an unending, forever loyal love. He wants us to be fully devoted and committed to Him, and to love Him as He loves us. Would a marriage be very good if only 1 of the 2 people were totally committed to the other? Our relationship with God will not be very good if we are not as committed to Him as He is to us

"If we invest everything we have in our relationship with God, we will experience the full dimensions of being children of God. If our desire is to know God more intimately, and if we spend ample time studying His word, God will generously enrich our relationship with Him. If we discipline ourselves to remain in prayer even when praying is difficult, He will reward us with a deeper, more powerful prayer life." - Henry Blackaby

- **Love:**

*Deuteronomy 6:5 (And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.)*

*John 15:13 – (Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.)*

*I Timothy 1:12-14*

<sup>12</sup>*And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;*

<sup>13</sup>*Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.*

<sup>14</sup>*And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.*

("Agape" Love):

*2 Cor. 5:9 – (Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.) ,*

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*Luke 9:23 – (And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.)*

*Galatians 2:20 – (I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.)*

*1 John 5:3 – (For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.)*

The Greek word "agape" for Love means "*unconditional & sacrificial love*", which Jesus demonstrated when He suffered and died on the cross to pay for the sins of the ones He loved. God wants us to love Him and others in the same way He loves us

**- Respect, Honor:**

*Psalm 25:12-14*

*<sup>12</sup>What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.*

*<sup>13</sup>His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.*

*<sup>14</sup>The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.*

*Luke 11:1-2*

*<sup>1</sup>And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.*

*<sup>2</sup>And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.*

**Reverance:**

*Psalm 100*

*<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.*

*<sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.*

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<sup>3</sup>*Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

<sup>4</sup>*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

<sup>5</sup>*For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.*

[Acts 2:43, 47](#)

<sup>43</sup>*And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.*

<sup>47</sup>*Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

[1 Chron. 28:9](#) – (And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.)

[1 Samuel 2:30](#) - -(Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.)

God is worthy of our reverence, and the more we know Him the more we will reverence Him and be in awe of Him. The word Praise means to "[place great value on someone](#)", so when we praise God we are communicating how much we care for Him and value Him

- **Trust:**

[Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

<sup>5</sup>*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

<sup>6</sup>*In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

[Psalm 91:1-2, 14-16](#)

<sup>1</sup>*He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*

<sup>2</sup>*I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.*

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[Psalm 91:14-16](#)

<sup>14</sup>*Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.*

<sup>15</sup>*He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.*

<sup>16</sup>*With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.*

[Psalm 22:4-5](#)

<sup>4</sup>*Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.*

<sup>5</sup>*They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.*

[Hebrews 11:6, 1](#)

<sup>6</sup>*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

<sup>1</sup>*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

[Psalm 62:5-8](#)

<sup>5</sup>*My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him.*

<sup>6</sup>*He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.*

<sup>7</sup>*In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.*

<sup>8</sup>*Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.*

[Isaiah 55:8-9](#)

<sup>8</sup>*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*

<sup>9</sup>*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

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You simply cannot have a good, intimate relationship with God or with your spouse if you cannot trust

- **Communication (2 way):**

- **Speak (Prayer):**

*Acts 1:14 – (These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.)*

*2:42 – (And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.)*

*1 John 5:14-15 –*

*<sup>14</sup>And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:*

*<sup>15</sup>And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

*Matthew 7:7 – (Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*

*Colossians 4:2 – (Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;)*

*1 Thess. 5:16-18*

*<sup>16</sup>Rejoice evermore.*

*<sup>17</sup>Pray without ceasing.*

*<sup>18</sup>In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*

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**Listen:**

[John 10:10-11, 27](#)

<sup>10</sup>*The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*

<sup>11</sup>*I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*

<sup>27</sup>*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:*

[1 Samuel 3:10](#) - *And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.*

**(God Speaks):**

[1 Kings 19:11-12](#)

<sup>11</sup>*And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:*

<sup>12</sup>*And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.*

[Psalm 46:10](#) - *Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.*

[Ecclesiastes 5:1](#) - *Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil.*

[Luke 10:38-42](#)

<sup>38</sup>*Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.*

<sup>39</sup>*And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.*



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<sup>40</sup>*But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.*

<sup>41</sup>*And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:*

<sup>42</sup>*But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*

**11:28** - *But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.*

God wants us to talk to Him about and involve Him in all aspects of our life, and have a lifestyle of prayer & talking to Him. Hearing God's voice is the most important part of our prayer time with Him. Good communication and learning to hear His "still small voice" is essential to knowing God and His attributes, His ways, His will, and His plans

- **Time, Effort To:**

**John 17:3** - **And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**

**Luke 10:38-42**

<sup>38</sup>*Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.*

<sup>39</sup>*And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.*

<sup>40</sup>*But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.*

<sup>41</sup>*And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:*

<sup>42</sup>*But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*

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**Know God:**

[Exodus 33:13,](#)

*<sup>13</sup>Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.*

[17-18](#)

*<sup>17</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name.*

*<sup>18</sup>And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.*

[Luke 6:12-13](#)

*<sup>12</sup>And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.*

*<sup>13</sup>And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;*

[Matthew 11:25-27](#)

*<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.*

*<sup>26</sup>Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.*

*<sup>27</sup>All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.*

[Philippians 3:8,](#)

*<sup>8</sup>Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,*

*<sup>10</sup> - That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;*

When you love someone you want to know them more & more. It takes time & effort & desire & determination in order to get to know God... it is a lifelong process and a heart attitude...

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make knowing God your main desire and pursuit - nothing will please Him more. The more you know Jesus the more you will love Him, and trust Him, and delight in Him, and follow & obey Him

**- Honesty:**

*Psalm 62:8 - Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.*

*Psalm 22:1-2*

*<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?*

*<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry in the day time, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.*

*14-*

*<sup>1</sup>The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.*

*<sup>2</sup>The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.*

*<sup>3</sup>They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*

*<sup>4</sup>Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.*

*<sup>5</sup>There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.*

*<sup>6</sup>Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge.*

*<sup>7</sup>Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.*

*15*

*<sup>1</sup>Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?*

*<sup>2</sup>He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.*

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<sup>3</sup>*He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.*

<sup>4</sup>*In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.*

<sup>5</sup>*He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.*

**Transparency:**

[1 Samuel 1:10-16](#)

<sup>10</sup>*And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.*

<sup>11</sup>*And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.*

<sup>12</sup>*And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth.*

<sup>13</sup>*Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.*

<sup>14</sup>*And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.*

<sup>15</sup>*And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.*

<sup>16</sup>*Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.*

[Psalm 51:2-4](#),

<sup>2</sup>*Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.*

<sup>3</sup>*For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.*

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*<sup>4</sup>Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*

10-12

## Psalm 10

*<sup>1</sup>Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?*

*<sup>2</sup>The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.*

*<sup>3</sup>For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth.*

*<sup>4</sup>The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.*

*<sup>5</sup>His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.*

*<sup>6</sup>He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.*

*<sup>7</sup>His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity.*

*<sup>8</sup>He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.*

*<sup>9</sup>He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.*

*<sup>10</sup>He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones.*

*<sup>11</sup>He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.*

*<sup>12</sup>Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble.*

*<sup>13</sup>Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it.*

*<sup>14</sup>Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.*

*<sup>15</sup>Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none.*

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<sup>16</sup>*The LORD is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land.*

<sup>17</sup>*LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:*

<sup>18</sup>*To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress.*

**Psalm 11**

<sup>1</sup>*In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?*

<sup>2</sup>*For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.*

<sup>3</sup>*If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?*

<sup>4</sup>*The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.*

<sup>5</sup>*The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.*

<sup>6</sup>*Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.*

<sup>7</sup>*For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.*

**Psalm 12**

<sup>1</sup>*Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.*

<sup>2</sup>*They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.*

<sup>3</sup>*The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:*

<sup>4</sup>*Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?*

<sup>5</sup>*For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.*

<sup>6</sup>*The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.*

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*<sup>7</sup>Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*

*<sup>8</sup>The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.*

God wants you to "pour out your heart to Him" ([Psalm 62:8](#)) , whatever it is you are feeling and going through, because He deeply cares for you. Note how David would be completely honest with God in some of the Psalms ([Psalm 13, 22,...](#)). God is always truthful with us, and He wants us to be truthful with Him.