



## What Does God Want From Me?

How do I have a deep and meaningful relationship with a God I cannot see?

John 15:5 NIV: <sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches.

John 15:5 NIV: If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5 NIV: apart from Jesus you can do nothing

“I can be tempted to think, well apart from Christ I can do some things well but with Christ I can do even better. That’s not what Jesus says. He doesn’t say apart from me you can do some things, and you need me to kind of beef it up. What he says is apart from me you can do nothing, because the work of the vine dresser and the work of the vine is supernatural.”  
- Dr. Brant Pitre

John 15:6 NIV: <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

John 15:7-8 NIV: <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Prayer is meant to go beyond communication to God—I pray to receive; to communion with God—I pray to connect.

John 15:9-11 NIV: <sup>9</sup> “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“The most important thing that happens between God and the human soul is to love and be loved” - Kallistos Katafygiotis

Duty keeps things running. Depth keeps things alive.

Zephaniah 3:17 NKJV: “The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet *you* with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”

“Praying is no easy matter. It demands a relationship in which you allow someone other than yourself to enter into the very center of your person, to see there what you would rather leave in darkness, and to touch there what you would rather leave untouched.” - Henri Nouwen

Abiding is drawing your life from Jesus by spending unhurried time with him, reflecting on his word and receiving his love.

John 15:10, 11 NIV: “remain in my love...so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

*All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.*