

How to become God conscious

While I was ministering at a women's conference, the speaker before me, a wonderful lady who flows in the office of a prophet spoke to the congregation under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit "the presence of God is different from the power of God, you become changed in the presence of God, and God wants us to learn TO BE in His presence, God wants us to come to the place where we know Him instead of feel Him."

As I heard these words something went off on the inside of me, and the Lord immediately took me back in my early Christian walk when He taught me this important lesson. God speaks to me often with very vivid and familiar illustrations. On this occasion He reminded me of the long and dark railroad tunnels that go through Italian mountains. I remember going through one of those tunnels. It got so dark, my eyes pupils became so wide in search of light, but amazingly enough when we got out of the tunnel the light was so much brighter, almost blinding.

The Lord told me that it was necessary for me to go through a "spiritual tunnel." This is where I would learn to seek and know His presence, not because I could feel him, but because His Word promised that He would never leave me or forsake me. God was preparing me for a season when everything seemed dead in my life. I couldn't feel the presence of God when I prayed, I didn't seem to receive any revelation from the Word, even my time in church seemed rather dull. To say the least, the burning bush had stopped burning! During this time one can grow cold or choose to press in by faith. Instead of being self conscious, or worse yet sin conscious, we can learn to become God conscious. In this message, I want to share with you a few things we can do to cultivate the presence of God, for at the end of the "tunnel" comes much light, a greater revelation of God.

1) Let the Child out!

Eph. 5:18 tells us that in these last days we must learn to be "continually" filled with the spirit. How? By spending time singing melodies in your heart to the Lord, by unashamedly singing and praising God alone in a private place, knowing that God inhabits the praises of His people.

I remember when I was a little girl, I would shut myself in my room, put music on and start singing and dancing without any reserve or shame. What has happened to the child in everyone of us? It is time to become like little children. Jesus said in *Matt. 18:4* "Whoever humbles himself as a little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of God" and in *Matt. 21:16* "out of the mouth of children He has perfected praise."

2) Stir up your thankful heart

2 Tim. 3:2 points out that one of the signs of the end time is "unthankfulness" and it is right between being rebellious and being unholy. No wonder the apostles all throughout the scriptures command us to remain thankful at all times, in all circumstances.

According to James 5:10 we have to follow Job's example. Don't grumble or complain, don't blame God for your problems but be patient and persevere, always looking at the end intended by the Lord.

God restored to Job twice as much as before, in quality and quantity. It is so easy to see what we don't have, or what could be. But how about starting to count our blessings. There are so many things we can give thanks for... and I notice that when I do, it is not too long before I find myself in His presence. I become filled with His joy and His peace; In His presence is fullness of joy.

3) Pray in the Holy Spirit

Another way to keep ourselves in the presence of God is by praying in the Holy Spirit. *Jude 20* says: "*But you my beloved build yourself up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourself in the love of God.*" We know that God is love and to keep ourselves in love is to keep ourselves in God, in His presence, how? By praying in the Holy Spirit. The stronger our spirit gets, the easier it is to walk in love and walk by faith, because faith works out by love. Even better yet, when we pray or sing in the Spirit, according to 1 Cor. 14:16-17, we find a way to bless God in a most perfect way. Paul said that when we pray in the spirit, we "give thanks well". We all have experienced times when words weren't just enough to express our heart to God, but how wonderful it is to be able to bypass our mind and intellect and tap right into our spirit to offer God the most perfect and heartfelt praise. As we learnt to abide in His presence, we will then learn to tap in His power. Remember that Jesus' disciples had to learn also to be with Him and know Him before they could be sent out with power. The power comes from being in His presence, Mark 3:14.

When asked about the secret of His power, Smith Wigglesworth said "I only remember that Greater is He who is in me than he that is in the world." Let's be GOD conscious!

Notable quotes

- ❖ **No man can expect to make progress in Holiness who is not often and long with God.**
Unknown
- ❖ **This divine life is not a permanent deposit but a constant dependence.**
A.B. Simpson
- ❖ **Since the new Creation has the nature of the Father, the most natural place for the new creation to be, is in the Father's presence.**
E.W. Kenyon
- ❖ **We must wear the bonds of a servant with the spirit of a king and the simplicity and sweetness of a child.**
E.M Bounds
- ❖ **He will use his intellect best who cultivates his heart most.**
E.M. Bounds
- ❖ **When the eyes of the soul looking out meet the eyes of God looking in, Heaven has begun right here on the earth.**
A.W. Tozer