

GETTING CLOSER TO אַיָּהּ (YAHUAH)

“Draw closer to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah), and he will draw closer to you” **James 4:8**.

Do you desire to be closer to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah)? How close do you really want to get to Him? Developing a closer relationship with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is an admirable goal and reflects a heart that is truly renewed, for only those who are in **וַיְהוֹשׁוּא** (Yahusha) desire a closer relationship with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah).

אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) created each of us with a longing for intimacy with Him. We must, therefore, come to some understanding of what He is asking of us and what He is offering. We must come to the realization that we were created to fellowship with our Creator. We need Him and He desires us. “אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) desires us?” Yes! He wants us, desires us. He gave his very best in His only begotten Son to redeem what Adam relinquished in the Garden. And He did it for intimacy.

So passionate was His desire after Adam and Eve sinned, He worked intensely throughout time to bring humanity back to a place of intimacy with him. He gave the ultimate Gift so He might walk with us in the garden of our lives **John 3:16**. From the midst of the Garden, אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) called out to Adam. Today He is calling out our names, waiting to share His love with us, waiting to hear our hearts expressed to Him.

The biggest hindrance to having a more intimate relationship with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is our perception of who He is. Basing our perception of אַיָּהּ (Yahuah)’s character on the ungodly actions or attitudes of others will skew our understanding of His nature. Often circumstances in our lives prevent us from drawing closer. Yet David says in **Psalms 27:10**: “Though my father and mother forsake me, אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) will receive me.” In other words, regardless of who abandons us, betrays us, or hurts us, אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is ready, willing and able to embrace us.

Intimacy with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is available to you. It is as accessible to you as אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) promised. אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) invites you to enjoy intimate fellowship with him which will put your Amunah (Faith) to the test more than anything else.

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your Amunah (Faith) produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be Perfect and Complete, lacking in nothing. **James 1:2-4**

We cannot be intimate if we don’t trust. Trust is at the heart of intimacy. The more we trust, the closer we get to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah). Our experience of אַיָּהּ (Yahuah)’s nearness or distance is not a description of his actual proximity to us, but of our experience of intimacy with him. Scripture shows us that אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is intimate with those who trust him. The more we trust אַיָּהּ (Yahuah), the more intimately we come to know him.

This reality is vitally important to understand. As Believers, we want to experience intimacy with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah). As the psalmist said, “for me it is good to be near אַיָּהּ (Yahuah)” **Psalms 73:28**.

One common mistake is thinking that an intimate relationship with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) can be achieved through knowledge accumulation. Now, of course, to intimately know אַיָּהּ

(Yahuah), we must know crucial things about אַיָּהּ (Yahuah). OUYAH (Yahuah) said, “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” **John 8:32** and he pointed out that many worship what they do not know **John 4:22**.

We must understand that in this life we will never be as close to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) as we ought to be or desire to be. The reason for this is Sin in our lives. This is not a deficiency on אַיָּהּ (Yahuah)’s part, but on ours; our Sin remains a barrier to intimacy with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah).

The secret to a closer walk with אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) and having him draw near to us is revealed clearly in Scripture: we draw near to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) through Amunah (Faith) in OUYAH (Yahuah) HaMashiach, who alone gives us access to him **Hebrews 4:14–16; 7:25; Philippians 3:9**, and we put our trust in all of “his precious and very great promises” which are found in OUYAH (Yahusha) **2 Peter 1:4; 2 Corinthians 1:20**.

For without Amunah (Faith) it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw closer to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. **Hebrews 11:6**

When אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) sees someone whose heart fully trusts his promises and lives by them, אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) comes to strongly support that Believer **2 Chronicles 16:9** and manifests himself to them:

Whoever has my Commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” **John 14:21**

Indeed, I count every thing as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing my Adon OUYAH (Yahusha) HaMashiach. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Mashiach (Messiah) and be found in him, not having a Righteousness of my own that comes from the Turah (law), but that which comes through Amunah (Faith) in Mashiach (Messiah) **Philippians 3:8-9**.

אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) wants intimacy with you. OUYAH (Yahusha) has done all the hard work on the stake to make it possible. But he requires that you believe in him **John 14:1**. He wants you to trust him with all your heart **Proverbs 3:5**.

ADMIT YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ON YOUR OWN

One of the (1st) first steps to gaining a closer relationship to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is admitting that you need him in your life. The reality is that we can't do everything on our own, so admitting this will not only show a sense of humility in your life, but will also show אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) that you have Amunah (Faith) in his strength and promises.

PREPARING YOUR HEART

When I speak about getting closer to אַיָּהּ (Yahuah), you must understand one thing: A closer relationship must begin with a preparation of the heart. In **Jeremiah 4:3** it says; “This is what אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) says to the people of Yahudah (Judah) and to Yarusalym (Jerusalem): “Break up your unplowed ground and do not sow among thorns.

אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) is speaking about breaking up the hard ground in your heart, that part where the Word of אַיָּהּ (Yahuah) isn't finding and lodging... Where it isn't flourishing and growing... Where it isn't bearing fruit! It is written; “And sow not among the thorns.” If there

is a patch in your heart that is hard or thorny that area has to be plowed up before planting. Get rid of those things in your heart, which are contrary to the Word of אַיָּאָל (Yahuah). Then, when they have been removed, there will be room for a new planting of the Word.

You can try to sow the seed of אַיָּאָל (Yahuah)'s Word among thorns, but it won't grow. But instead, the thorns will soon choke the Word out. Those thorns are the cares of this life, they are the things which will choke out the Word and cause you to become unfruitful. We read in **Hosea 10:12**; "Sow Righteousness for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek אַיָּאָל (Yahuah), until he comes and showers his Righteousness on you."

If we really want אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) to plant in us something new, we must realize that it will only happen, because we took time to prepare the soil of our heart. There may be things in our heart, which could prevent us from getting closer to אַיָּאָל (Yahuah). Many times it's that thing which we allow to remain, that thing which we refuse to put away which hinders us.

וַיָּאָל (Yahusha) walked as a man and built relationships in the same way we do today. If you spend time in the Word, He will begin to speak back to your heart, giving you guidance and encouragement.

(5) FIVE BASIC THINGS WE CAN DO TO GET CLOSER TO אַיָּאָל (YAHUAH)

(1) The first (1st) thing we can do to get closer to אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) is to make a daily habit of confessing our Sin to Him. If Sin is the barrier in our relationship with אַיָּאָל (Yahuah), then confession removes that barrier. When we confess our Sins before אַיָּאָל (Yahuah), He promises to forgive us (**1 John 1:9**), and forgiveness is what restores a relationship that has been strained. We must keep in mind that confession is more than simply saying, "I'm sorry for my Sin, אַיָּאָל (Yahuah)." It is the heartfelt repentance (turning away from Sin), recognizing that our Sin is an offense to a Qadosh Alhym. It is the confession of one who realizes that his Sin is what nailed וַיָּאָל (Yahusha) to the stake. It is the cry of the publican in **Luke 18** who said, "אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) be merciful to me a Sinner!" As King David wrote, "The sacrifices of אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) are a broken Ruch (spirit); a broken and contrite heart, O אַיָּאָל (Yahuah), you will not despise" **Psalms 51:17**.

(2) The second (2nd) thing we can do to get closer to אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) is to speak to Him through prayer. Prayer is key. Although prayer can sometimes be looked at as weird or awkward, it's really not. Look at prayer as a conversation between you and אַיָּאָל (Yahuah). Just relax, get somewhere peaceful, and begin a conversation with אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) that will help build your relationship with him. "To be a Believer without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." I want you to begin looking at prayer as your way of staying connected to אַיָּאָל (Yahuah). Any relationship with meaning is one that has great communication.

In **James 4:8** we read; "Draw closer to אַיָּאָל (Yahuah) and he will Draw near to you. Wash your hands, you Sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." Let this verse sink down into your heart, and apply it to your life. You have the responsibility of taking the first (1st) step. When you begin to draw near to אַיָּאָל (Yahuah), He will automatically draw near to you. Cleanse your hands; and purify your hearts: focus your mind. Start to seek אַיָּאָל (Yahuah). Come out from the world, separate yourself from the things of the world, and fix your heart and

mind on things above.

אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) also tells us to humble ourselves. If we do this, He will lift us up. He will Draw near, and we will find our experience getting richer and fuller each day. He looks for occasions to reach into our hearts and do a greater work in our lives. One way is for us to get closer is by spending time alone with Him, putting away some of those things that take so much of our time and spending more time with Him. If we spend some of that extra time in prayer, it gives אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) an opportunity to draw us closer.

The Gospels often record **וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה** (Yahusha) separated Himself away to commune with His Father in prayer. Prayer is much more than simply a way to ask אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) for things we need or want. Consider the model prayer that **וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה** (Yahusha) gives His disciples in **Matthew 6:9-13**. The first (1st) three (3) petitions in his prayer are directed towards אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) (may His name be honored, may His kingdom come, may His Will be done). The last three (3) petitions are requests we make of אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) after we've taken care of the first (1st) three (3) (give us our daily bread, forgive us our debts (Sins), lead us not into temptation). Another thing we can do to revive our prayer lives is to read the Psalms. Many of the Psalms are heartfelt cries to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) for various things. In the Psalms we see adoration, repentance, thanksgiving and supplication modeled in a divinely inspired way.

(3) The third (3rd) thing we can do to get closer to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) is to listen when he speaks. Now, besides spending time in Prayer, we need to also spend time in the Word. If reading Scripture is listening to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) speak to us, speaking to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) is accomplished through Prayer. Many today are chasing a supernatural experience of hearing אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah)'s voice, but the apostle Kephah (Peter) tells us that we “have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts” **2 Peter 1:19**.

It is in our time of reading Scripture, that we “hear” אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah)'s voice speaking to us. It is through the “אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah)-breathed” Scriptures that we become “thoroughly equipped for every good work” according to **2 Timothy 3:16-17**. So if we want to get closer to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah), we should read His Word regularly. In reading His Word, we are “listening” to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) speak through it by his Ruch (Spirit) who illuminates the Word to us.

We read in **Isaiah 55:6-8**; “Seek אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah), and he will have mercy on them, and to our Aluhym (God), for he will freely pardon.”

Here אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) shows you His way: Seek Him while He may be found. When you feel His nearness, draw near and call upon Him. Let the wicked forsake his way. Forget your ways, and begin to seek out אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah)'s ways. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah).” Open up your understanding to see אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) and His ways. He said; “His thoughts are not your thoughts:” He thinks differently about things than you do. Realize אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) is Alhym (God) and you and I are just human beings who think with a natural mind. We think as created beings while אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) thinks as the Creator!

It is written in **Proverbs 14:12**; “There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads

to death.” There is a way, which seems right unto a man. Man looks at it and sizes it up by saying; “I believe this way is good for me:” But **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is telling us; “not to look at our ways, for many of those ways are actually the ways of death!”

(4) The fourth (4th) thing we can do to get closer to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is to find a body of believers with whom we can regularly worship and study together. This is such a vital component of our spiritual growth. You won’t believe how much having a group of people to support you with help along your journey with **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah). Getting plugged into an Assembly or small-group of believers will help keep you accountable, give you wisdom when needed, and even be there for you in times of distress. I encourage you to get yourself plugged in to an Assembly that cares about your relationship with **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) as much as you do.

Oh come, let us sing to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah); let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our Salvation! **2** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of Praise! **Psalm 95:1-2**

אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) invites us, commands us, to come into His presence for worship. How can we, His people, fail to respond? Not only does regular gathering give us an opportunity to come before **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah)’s presence in worship, but it also gives us an opportunity to fellowship with **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah)’s people. As we come into the presence of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) in worship and fellowship with His people, we can’t help but grow closer to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) as a result.

(5) Finally, a closer relationship with **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is built upon a life of obedience. **וְיָשׁוּב** (Yahusha) told His disciples in the upper room, “If you love me, keep my Commandments” **John 14:23**. James tells us that as we submit ourselves to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) through obedience, resist HaSatan (the devil), and draw near to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah), and He will draw near to us **James 4:7-8**. Shaul (Paul) tells us in Romans that our obedience is our “living sacrifice” of thanksgiving to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) **Romans 12:1**. We must keep in mind that all Scriptural; exhortations to obedience are presented as our response to the grace of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) we receive in Salvation. We don’t earn Salvation through our obedience; rather, our obedience is the way we honor and show our love and gratitude towards **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) for our Salvation, which helps us get closer to him.

So, through Confession, Scripture study, Prayer, regular gathering with fellow believers, and Obedience, we can develop an intimate relationship and grow closer to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah). It seems rather simple, if not simplistic. But consider this: how do we develop a closer relationship with other human beings? We spend time with them in conversation, opening our hearts to them and listening to them at the same time. We acknowledge when we’ve done wrong and seek forgiveness. We seek to treat them well and sacrifice our own needs to fulfill theirs. It’s not really that different with our relationship to our Heavenly Father.

“**אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth (Turah).” **Psalm 145:18**

אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) said; “that we ought to separate our lives from the world and we have to declare what **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) has said.” He also told us; “to love not the world, nor the things which are in the world,” in **1 John 2:15-16**; we are warned; “that in the last days men would be lovers of pleasure more than lovers of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) in **2 Timothy 3:4**

KEY SCRIPTURE FOR GETTING CLOSER TO **יְהוָה** (YAHUAH)

Romans 12:1-2 tells us; “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, Qadosh (Holy) and pleasing to **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)’s Will is, his good, pleasing and perfect Will.”

Brothers and Sisters, give thought to this passage. It shows how to prepare your heart. It shows just what **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) would expect of Believers. Take this Scripture and meditate on your reasonable service!

I firmly believe that the Scripture, the Word of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) has all the answers we need. It has the answers to everything pertaining to life and righteousness. If we really want to get closer to **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), all we need do is follow what the Word of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) declares to us. He tells us to present ourselves Qadosh (Holy) and acceptable unto Him. Now you must understand, what is acceptable unto you may be totally unacceptable unto **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). Standards, which you might feel are all right, might be far from what **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) approves of. If you want to get closer to **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), you are going to have to do so as outlined in Scripture.

Now I will tell you, you’re not going to become Qadosh (holy) overnight. You have to be transformed by the Word of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). The Word has to take hold of you, shaping you and molding you into a Qadosh (holy) vessel of honor. You’re not perfect the day you receive Salvation. As the Word is ministered to us, we gain more and more light each day. We gain more to live up to, that we might grow closer in our relationship with **יְהוָה** (Yahuah).

And you shall love **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) your Alhym with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your might.”

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LOVE **יְהוָה** (YAHUAH) WITH ALL OUR HEART, BEING (SOUL) AND MIGHT (MIND)?

Love for **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) is a progression, a growth. **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) already planted a seed of love within us because we are His children, and He is our Father. The (1st) first thing we do to get that seed to grow is to ask the Father. Ask the Father to increase your love for Him. Ask Him to give you the gift of love, to love Him as he intended. If we ask sincerely, He will do it.

We must seek Him, read His word daily, study His Commands and begin to do them, study the Good News and Learn of **וְיָשׁוּעָה** (Yahusha), His ways, His words and Pray diligently every day. The key is diligence. We cannot tire in seeking Him. If we tire, our love will not grow.

The more we seek **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), the more we learn of Him, then the more we’ll understand Him. The more we know and understand Him, then the more our heart will desire Him. As we learn of Him, we begin to understand His greatness, His magnificence, His goodness, His favor, His kindness, His mightiness, His strength, His righteousness! We understand that **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) is Alhym!

When we understand this, we greatly appreciate **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), we begin to thank Him and esteem Him, because He has given us life and sustains us. All that we are and all that we have is only because of Him. This appreciation and thankfulness brings us to the first (1st) level of

love for Alhym (with all your heart). We will begin to desire Him because without Him we are nothing. We will desire Him because we realize that it is pointless to desire anything else, for He is the Source of all good things.

Our heart and our mind go together. Usually, whatever we think about (positively), we begin to desire; and whatever we desire, we think about. So we love Him with all our mind when our thoughts are continually focused on Him—how to please Him and obey Him. When we study and think on Him, we'll desire Him.

The more we seek after **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah), the more our love for Him grows. As we continue in our diligence to learn of **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah), our obedience to walk in His ways increases. We obey His Commands, His Turah, following **וְיָשָׁא** (Yahusha) as our example. As we obey, our behavior changes. We become more set-apart. Sinful ways cease. We obey His commands. We do more of His will and we begin to deny the ways of the flesh in order to please the Father as we live according to his ways.

The more we walk in His way, the more we experience Him in our life. We experience His Presence more; we feel His love more; we hear His voice more. Our love for Him continues to grow, but now it's a greater love. It's not a love simply based on what He's done for us. It's a greater love, an unconditional love. We just love Him. Even if everything He's given us was taken away, we'd still love Him. Because this greater love is not based on a reason (it's unconditional), we will give our life for Him. Our being loves Him so much that we would give it up, give up our soul before we deny Him. This is the second (2nd) level of love (with all your being, your Soul).

If we reach this second (2nd) level of love, we do well, but to be perfect we must go further. Continuing in our learning of the Father, continuing drawing near to Him, by obeying His word and walking in His ways.

The third (3rd) level of love requires testing of our diligence and endurance. It involves denying our self and following **וְיָשָׁא** (Yahusha). Follow Him above all else. Follow Him through whatever trials and tribulation He places before us and overcoming in Him. It is truly dying to our self and living for Him. This third (3rd) level is (with all your might, your Mind).

The first (1st) meaning is to love **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah) with all that He has Baruk (Blessed) us with, all of our resources and all of our possessions. When we love **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah), we will give up everything to serve Him and walk in His way and accomplish His will. All our possessions are matters of naught.

A deeper understanding comes from the Abry (Hebrew) word “meod,” which means ‘Very Much.’ To love **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah) with all your might, to love Him VERY much. How much? VERY MUCH! It is an unlimited love. It has no boundaries, it goes beyond the Barakah (Blessings) in our life; it goes beyond our physical existence. There is no limit to this kind of love. It is a love that is beyond our self, we cannot make ourselves feel this love. **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah) births this deep love for Him within us when we have endured through the trials, tribulations and obstacles of this life. When we reach this level of love, we will forsake all for Him, all that we have and all that we are, our possessions and our life for the esteem of His Name.

Very few reach this level of love for **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah), and it is only in experiencing it that we

can truly understand it. Yet, we know this love is possible. So we start where we are and begin to diligently seek His face so our love will grow and blossom within us until love is perfected.

Another aspect of love for אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) is to make Him known to all mankind. When we love a person, we speak about that person all the time. We tell others just how good this person is and try to get others to see this person's value and feel the same way, so they speak the same praises. That's how we should be with אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah). We have to express our love for Him to others. Cause Him to be beloved in the eyes of others too.

When we love אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah), we grow even more closer to him and we help others to do the same. Those who do not know אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah), we tell them about him. Those who are distant from Him, we help them to grow closer. Those who don't understand Him, we give them knowledge and help them understand.

How do I love אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) with all my heart, and with all my being (Soul), and with all my might (Mind)?

Seek אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) and His strength, Seek His face continually! **1 Chronicles 16:11**

To my heart You have said, "Seek My face." Your face (presence), אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah), I seek. **Psalms 27:8**

Seek אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) and His strength; Seek His face (presence) always. **Psalms 105:4**

As said before, our being already has a seed of love for אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) within us. We must break down all blockages and walls and then grow in love for the Father. Pray for אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) to remove all blockages, break down walls, remove impediments and stumbling blocks from before you, so you can feel and experience His love. Pray that אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) will guide you on the right path as you diligently search for Him. Pray for diligence and steadfastness. Pray that the love for the Father increases within you.

"Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy and eat Come, buy wine and milk Without money and without cost. "Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And delight yourself in abundance. "Incline your ear and come to Me, Listen that you may live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you, According to the faithful mercies shown to David. **Isaiah 55:1-3**

No man among the descendants of Aaron the priest who has Sin is to come near to offer אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah)'s offerings by fire; since he has Sin, he shall not come near to offer the food of his Alhym (God). **Leviticus 21:21**

How Baruch (Blessed) is the one whom You choose and bring near to you to dwell in Your courts, we will be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Your Qadosh (holy) temple. **Psalms 65:4**

She heeded no voice, She accepted no instruction She did not trust in אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah), She did not draw near to her Alhym (God). **Zephaniah 3:2**

Then Mushah (Moses) said to Aaron, "It is what אֱלֹהִים (Yahuah) spoke, saying, 'By those who come near Me I will be treated as Qadosh (Holy), And before all the people I will be honored.'" So Aaron, therefore, kept silent. **Leviticus 10:3**

יְיָ (Yahuah) is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth (Turah).
Psalm 145:18

"Return, O faithless sons, I will heal your faithlessness." "Behold, we come to You; For You are יְיָ (Yahuah) our Alhym (God). **Jeremiah 3:22**

Ascribe to יְיָ (Yahuah) the esteem (glory) of His Name; Bring an offering and come into His courts. **Psalm 96:8**

"Therefore say to them, "Thus says יְיָ (Yahuah) of hosts, "Return to Me," declares יְיָ (Yahuah) of hosts, "that I may return to you," says יְיָ (Yahuah) of hosts. **Zechariah 1:3**

Serve יְיָ (Yahuah) with gladness; Come before Him with joyful singing. Know that יְיָ (Yahuah) Himself is Alhym (God); It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise, Give thanks to Him, Baruch (Bless) His Name. **Psalm 100:2-4**

"From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them Return to Me, and I will return to you," says יְיָ (Yahuah) of hosts. **Malachi 3:7**

With what shall I come to יְיָ (Yahuah) And bow myself before the Alhym (God) on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, With yearling calves? Does יְיָ (Yahuah) take delight in thousands of rams, In ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, The fruit of my body for the Sin of my Soul? He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does יְיָ (Yahuah) require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your Aluhym (God)? **Micah 6:6-8**

For the Turah (Law) made nothing perfect, and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to יְיָ (Yahuah). **20** And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, **21** but this one (1) was made a priest with an oath by the one (1) who said to him: "יְיָ (Yahuah) has sworn and will not change his mind, 'You are a priest forever.'" **Hebrews 7:19-21**

But as for me, the nearness of יְיָ (Yahuah) is my good; I have made יְיָ (Yahuah) Alhym (God) my refuge, That I may tell of all Your works. **Psalm 73:28**

let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of Amunah (Faith), having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **Hebrews 10:22**

Then, begin to seek His Face (presence). "And these Words which I am Commanding you today shall be in your heart," **Deuteronomy 6:6**

As we do these things our love for the Father begins to increase and we draw closer to him. Commit yourself to reading and studying His word daily. Be careful that your time is not consumed with only reading what other people say about His word. The more we study His word, the more knowledge we'll have of Him. With more knowledge comes more understanding of Who He is. With more understanding of Him, our being will begin to rejoice in Him, in His greatness and His goodness, and that rejoicing will burst forth into love for the Father. Seek His presence continually. Study His word, and obey. Whatever command you learn, walk in it. Do your best to live in set-apartness, in righteousness, in love for our

neighbor, without Sin, and in complete dedication to the Father.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7** If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. **9** As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. **10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's Commandments and abide in his love. **John 15:1-10**

Take a few moments each day to just think about Who **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is and how Great He is. Then, praise Him. Tell Him of His greatness, His love, His compassion, His strength and His righteousness! Read praises from Scripture aloud. Give thanks continually for any and every good thing around you.

Share **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) with others. Tell others about Who He is and how great a Father He is. Make Him known among the people and make Him beloved in the eyes of others. In all of this: stick to it, be diligent and steadfast. Remember it takes time for a seed to grow. Do not grow weary, continue seeking Him. Pray for His strength.

Take a leap of Amunah (Faith), and pour out your heart to the Lover of your Soul. Position yourself to listen, and He will speak. The seeds of intimacy will grow abundantly and you will draw closer to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) your Alhym and he will draw closer to you.