



The Oil of Intimacy Preston Morrison

Focus God knows everything, but He loves knowing *you* the most. God is everywhere because He doesn't want to miss one second with you. Don't settle for having an intellectual relationship with God; have an intimate relationship with Him. God passionately loves us and invites us to know Him intimately.

Fun What has been your favorite vacation?

Review Key Scriptures: Matthew 26:6–13; Psalm 139:1–10

1. Intimacy has a completely different way of seeing.

God wants to know us intimately. The Bible says God's sheep hear His voice. God speaks to us daily, but the question is whether we are listening. God loves us more than we will ever know, and He wants us to learn His ways so we can know Him. The greatest growth we will experience as believers is when our knowledge of God moves from our heads to our hearts. In the Bible, God shows us how to see Him and reveals how He sees us. Ask God to help you see Him more intimately.

2. Intimacy has a completely different way of speaking.

Intimacy speaks to us like a child, like a friend, and like a lover. Best friends know everything about each other. God invites us to be best friends with Him. Eternal life is an invitation to spend forever with God in an intimate relationship. God wants to be known by us in a way no one else knows. If we boast about anything, we should boast that we truly know God and understand He is the Lord who demonstrates and declares His intimate love for us. God is in love with us, and we were created to be lovers of God.

Group Dynamics Idea It's important to be connected and committed to a local church. Encourage your group members to take Growth Path to learn more about opportunities at Gateway and take the next step of membership if they haven't already. For details on in-person and online classes, visit gatewaypeople.com/growthpath.

Discuss

1. What does intimacy mean to you?
2. Read Psalm 139:1–10. How might this be a romantic declaration? How does this passage relate to us?
3. What happens if we settle for an intellectual relationship with God rather than an intimate relationship with Him?
4. What did Pastor Preston Morrison mean when he said, "Intimacy has a different way of seeing things"?
5. What is the difference between knowing God and being intimate with Him?
6. Intimacy with God should change how we hear Him. How might you hear God differently in your everyday life through the lens of intimacy?
7. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this message?

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Intimacy has a completely different way of seeing.
- Intimacy has a completely different way of speaking.

Prayer Heavenly Father, thank You for the Father's heart You have for us, Your children. Give us a revelation of what intimacy with You looks like. Please heal any wounds we have that have prevented us from being intimate with You and remove anything that keeps us distanced from You. We are grateful You are gentle with us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Pastor Robert is returning this week from his study break, and we can all benefit from studying the Bible and theology. If there is a biblical or theological topic you aren't confident in, intentionally study that area. Also consider asking a pastor or mentor to share a book recommendation with you to help you continue growing as a leader.