

Seeking God May 9- 15



My pen pal, Jean Milz, and I have been exchanging letters for over 20 years. When I write to her, I get to share what is going on with my family, work, and church, as well as sharing book and movie recommendations. I also include prayer requests. It is a joy to share the details of all aspects of my life with my friend. When I receive one of Jean's letters, I am eager to read her news, to learn about the happiness and struggles in her life, and how I might support her in prayer. With a friendship of such longstanding, we feel free to be honest with each other.

It seems to me that there is a lesson about the spiritual disciplines of prayer and Bible study in the pattern of our letter writing. First, we must be consistent in practicing these disciplines, making them a daily part of our lives. There is a consistency in the exchange of letters with Jean. Each of us must do our part by continuing to write to each other. Both the author and the recipient are important components of this relationship. In Bible study we listen to what God, the Author, has to say to us, and then we get to respond in prayer. Just as I take joy in sharing the details of my life with my friend, I should take joy in sharing the details of my life with Jesus, the ultimate Friend.

God wants a relationship with us, and prayer and Bible study provide two very important ways for us to maintain this relationship. It is important that we listen to God when He speaks, but it is also important to know that God desires to listen to us. That is a pretty special gift.

Sometimes I realize that it's been a while since I've written to Jean. The remedy for that is to sit down and pen a letter to my friend. All of us experience times when we drift away from God and need to get back on course. Seeking God through His Word and through prayer provides an excellent way to make a course correction in our relationship with God. Just as I enjoy writing to and hearing from my friend, I should make sure that I spend time praying to God and then reading His great love letter to me, the Bible. Every day presents a new opportunity to open my spiritual mailbox to read a new letter from God and then to take time to write a love letter back to Him.

Janine Kutty

Scripture:

Psalm 27:8

Psalm 105: 4

Proverbs 3:6

2 Chronicles 7:14

Isaiah 55:6

Matthew 6:33

Matthew 7:7-8