
Newsletter

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adelphicare.org

God-centred care
for everyone



In this issue...

“How do I help someone...”

Over the last couple of years, we have been working on a collection of essays under the title “How do I help someone...?” These practical essays are designed to provide some ideas on how we can serve our Father by helping our brothers and sisters and other people. Currently, there are 19 essays that can be found by accessing the following address:

<https://www.adelphicare.org/HDIHS/0000HDIHS-contents.html>

We plan, God willing, to add more essays over the coming months, God willing.

Getting closer to God

How do I help someone.....get closer to God?



Helping someone get closer to God is one of the most valuable things we can do for our friends, family and brothers and sisters. Such help demonstrates our compassion and love, and our willingness to help someone along their life journey. Our Lord Jesus Christ is our example for this.

However, it starts with our own closeness to God. We have to be some way along our own journey before we can be effective in our efforts to help another. This does not mean that we do not attempt to help another until we have got it ‘right’ for ourselves, but we do have to be aware of what being closer to God means for ourselves. We will not have complete closeness to God this side of the Kingdom, but we should be somewhere along the path if we are trying to help others.

Getting closer to God ourselves?

Where are we in our personal journey? Do we feel close to God ourselves? And what does being close to God actually mean? Associated with this essay there are

some stories of what some brothers and sisters of various ages believe is at least one way they have become closer to God.

What the stories show is that getting close to God is **highly individual**. Each person has different experiences, and these will reflect that person’s personality. God respects this individuality. David in Psalm 134 (verses 1-4) shows he realises that God recognises individuals. He wrote

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD. (Psalm 139:1-4)

There are other verses with assurances. Just before Jesus’ ascension into heaven after his resurrection, he told his disciples

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Matthew 28:20)

Our Heavenly Father, through His Son, is always with us, sometimes collectively and always as individuals. He looks after us. He is always the constant in our life. Our getting closer to Him is our responsibility. Our desire is to get closer to Him, which He encourages.

What is closeness to God?

In many articles on the Adelphicare web site we have stressed that it is our **connection** with God that is vital to our closeness. And we know this in many aspects of our life. All our relationships involve connection. If we have good friends and family we relate to them, we confide in them, we have frequent association with them. One person has described connection with God as a “deep, intimate relationship.” We know that our most worthwhile life associations centre around deep, intimate relationships. Such a connection with God is the same thing. We know that God is always willing for connection and closeness. It is up to us to develop this closeness from our end. The Apostle James summed it up this way:

“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.” James 4:8 ...

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Read the full article and stories

<https://www.adelphicare.org/HDIHS/PDF/019H-closer.pdf>

<https://www.adelphicare.org/HDIHS/PDF/019aH-stories.pdf>

(Please note - you may need to cut and paste the addresses into a browser to access the document.)

Want someone to talk to? Phone this Australia-wide Christadelphian Helpline **08 8270 4115** (free-call in Australia)

Service provided by the Christadelphian Support Services of South Australia.