

Daily Devotional, September 16, 2021 The Most Perfect Relationship Ever

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. Psalms 3:1 (NIV)

Each one of us were made for a relationship with God. Somewhere deep inside, every human has an inborn desire for a connection to the divine. People express this desire differently and seek different relationships with God, but the desire is part of our spiritual makeup. God created all of humanity and pours God's own breath into us and we, in turn, spend all of our lives seeking to grow closer to our creator.

The really good news is that the transcendent God seeks us out long before we even begin to realize our work to grow closer to God. God's love and presence are inescapable certainties of our human existence. Some of our church fathers called this our means of grace. They proclaimed that God's grace lived before us, finds and saves us and we are powerless against God's beautiful gifts of love, grace, forgiveness, peace, and intimate relationship.

St. Augustine experienced and wrote beautifully about his powerlessness over his desire for closeness with God: *"You called, you cried, you shattered my deafness. You sparkled, you blazed, you drove away my blindness. You shed your fragrance, and I drew in my breath, and I pant for you. I tasted and now I hunger and thirst. You touched me, and now I burn with longing for your peace."*

Always trust your desire for God and the ways that expresses itself. You were made to be in relationship with God the creator, and our creator is exploding with creativity. You never know where this relationship will lead you. You might be like Augustine and your desire for God will burn with longing for God's peace. When we long for God's peace, that peace does not stop at our own hearts. Our burning desire pushes us out of our comfort zone to share that peace with others. Our mission as believers in Christ, speaks to this longing for God's peace when it says we desire to share God's love daily. Let us not deny that mission but uphold it faithfully and courageously.

May you be reshaped, reformed, and transformed by God the creator as your spirit is nourished in holy relationship with God.

Prayer: God our Creator, we ask that you remove our uncertainties about intimacy with You. Draw us to You and empower us to claim ourselves to be Your beloved children. Fill us with Your grace, forgiveness, truth, and love, so that we may share them daily. In the name of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, Amen.