

Dependent on Prayer

*I have set the Lord always before me...
Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure. (Psalm 16:8-9, NIV)*

I can't describe how exciting and satisfying it is to discover Christ as a real Being, One who is always with me and in me. He is taking a more and more active role in my daily life. The Lord is teaching me to depend on Him more constantly and more practically in all I do. I'm learning to turn my time over to Him, letting Him direct my schedule. I'm learning I can look to Him for guidance and enabling in all my responsibilities, resting in Him to accomplish through me all that needs to be accomplished.

Having started to experience this way of living and serving, I want so much to be this way only and always. It's wonderful – more productive, more fulfilling, and more natural. God is becoming more real and dear than ever.

But I'm also finding that, accordingly, prayer is more essential. *Depending on God is depending on prayer.* Prayer is the very breath of the relationship. In daily life, with so much pressing us and distracting us, prayer is necessary to keep our hearts and minds turned to Him. We must bring our needs constantly to Him, remaining open to His influence and prompting.

I'm not just talking about time alone devoted only to prayer, as important as that is. I'm finding that I need a heart given to prayer on a constant basis, learning to turn to Him quickly, moment by moment, in petition and thanksgiving, looking to Him for guidance in everything I face.

As with human families and friendships, communication is a key to a more satisfying relationship. To improve a relationship, we must improve the communication. We must make it more open and more constant.

To get a feeling for such openness, read about Christ in the Gospels. You get a sense of that unbroken communication between the Father and Jesus. Jesus seems to be always listening, always aware of His Father's presence and power. You can almost feel the bond of trust between them.

That's the kind of relationship He wants with us. And having just begun to taste it, that's what I want as well.

*Father, I see Jesus, and
He is the person I want to be.
I want to live like Him.
I want His relationship with You:
constant, open, personal, trusting, loving.*