

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are beginning a new series on Growing in your relationship with God. Today's topic: REALITY CHECK: Examining your spiritual condition.

1) The need for self-examination

- a. What appeal did the Apostle Paul make to Christians in Corinthians? 2 Corinthians 13:5
- b. Why is that appeal so relevant for our lives today?
- c. What prayer of the Psalmist David might be helpful as we seek to assess our spiritual condition? Psalm 139:23-24
- d. Share a time when you realized your great need for a closer relationship with God. How did you become aware of your great need?

2) Counsel to lukewarm Christians

- a. Revelation 3:14-17 Why is this counsel of the Faithful and True Witness to Christians in Laodicea so relevant for our lives today?
- b. What portion of this counsel impacts you the most?
- c. What advice does Jesus offer to us? Revelation 3:18-19
- d. Where do you see the love of God revealed in this message to lukewarm Christians?
- e. What is your response to the invitation of Jesus recorded in Revelation 3:20?
- f. How do we open the door of our lives to experience a more intimate relationship with Jesus?

3) The LORD God desires an intimate relationship with us

- a. Genesis 2:7 How does the creation account illustrate our Creator's desire for an intimate relationship with us?
- b. Genesis 3:1-9 How did the entrance of sin affect God's desire for an intimate relationship with our first parents?
- c. Genesis 5:21-24 How can we experience the level of intimacy with God that Enoch experienced?
- d. What revelations given to the prophets confirm the LORD's desire to experience an intimate relationship with us? Exodus 25:8, Jeremiah 31:3, Zephaniah 3:17, etc.
- e. Where do you find the greatest revelation of God's desire for an intimate relationship with us? John 1:1-4, 14,16, 14:23, etc.
- f. What stories in the life of Jesus illustrate God's desire for an intimate relationship with us?
- g. How does the teaching of Jesus in John 15:1-11 illustrate God's desire for an intimate relationship with us?
- h. How does the Holy Spirit help us as we seek a more intimate relationship with God? John 14:16-18, 15:26, 16:7,8,13, Romans 8:26, etc.
- i. What is your response to the LORD's invitation to experience a more intimate relationship with Him?

