

Being instant



"I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be (Instant) ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" 2 Timothy 4:1-2, NKJV.

Closer Relationships Judges 18:27	Selfless Investment 2 Cor 8:10
Bolder Engagement Acts 14:3	Greater Participation Philip 2:1

CLOSER RELATIONSHIPS



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- **ISOLATION** (no accountability, no spiritual relationship, no external input or guidance)
- **APATHY** (no encouragement, exhortation, purpose or reason, spiritually unemployed)
- **PRIDE** (are self-sufficient, have all we need, are better than, smarter than, wiser than), untouchable, unsalable, it can happen to YOU but never to me?
- **FALL** (disasters either hardens the heart or softens it)

INVASION - POVERTY and SLAVERY - LACK OF GODS COVERING / PROMISES

the final wake-up call will be when He allows our enemies upon us and no longer protects us. Exodus 23



Romans 8: 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

Habakkuk 1: 5 "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. **6** For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, (Babylonians) that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own. **7** They are dreaded and fearsome; their justice and dignity go forth from themselves. **8** Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour. **9** They all come for violence all their faces forward. They gather captives like sand. **10** At kings they scoff, and at rulers they laugh. They laugh at every fortress, for they pile up earth and take it. **11** Then they sweep by like the wind and go on, guilty men, whose own might is their god!"

Does God control evil?

Romans 8:4 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ¹For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ²For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, ³he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ESV

Genesis 50:19-21
19 But Joseph replied, "Do not be afraid. Am I in the place of God? **20** As for you, what you intended against me for evil, God intended for good, in order to accomplish a day like this— to preserve the lives of many people, **21** Therefore do not be afraid. I will provide for you and your little ones." So Joseph reassured his brothers and spoke kindly to them....

Matthew 24:36 No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark.

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, **prepare your minds for action**, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

"GET READY AND STAY READY"

How can we Build CLOSER RELATIONSHIPS?

TWO ESSENTIALS IN BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

- **Proximity + Purpose**
- Relationships thrive with **Time and Unity of purpose**
- God does not build temporarily, but eternally
- In and **THROUGH** relationships
- God builds His kingdom through a commitment to: brotherhood, sisterhood, family
- Building RELATIONSHIPS cost us **TIME – TALENT – TREASURE**
- If Our commitment is measured in minutes, we misunderstand **HOW God builds**
- Time and adversity **Prov 17:17 A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.**
