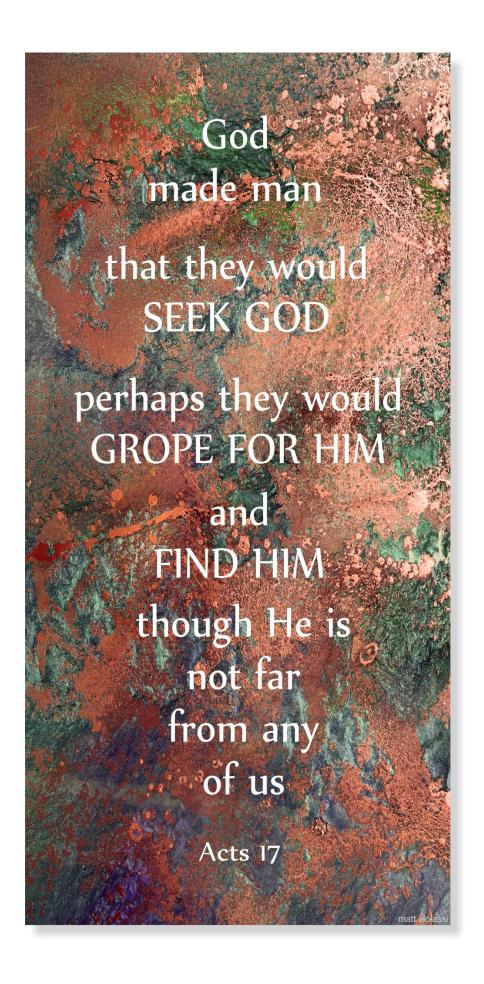
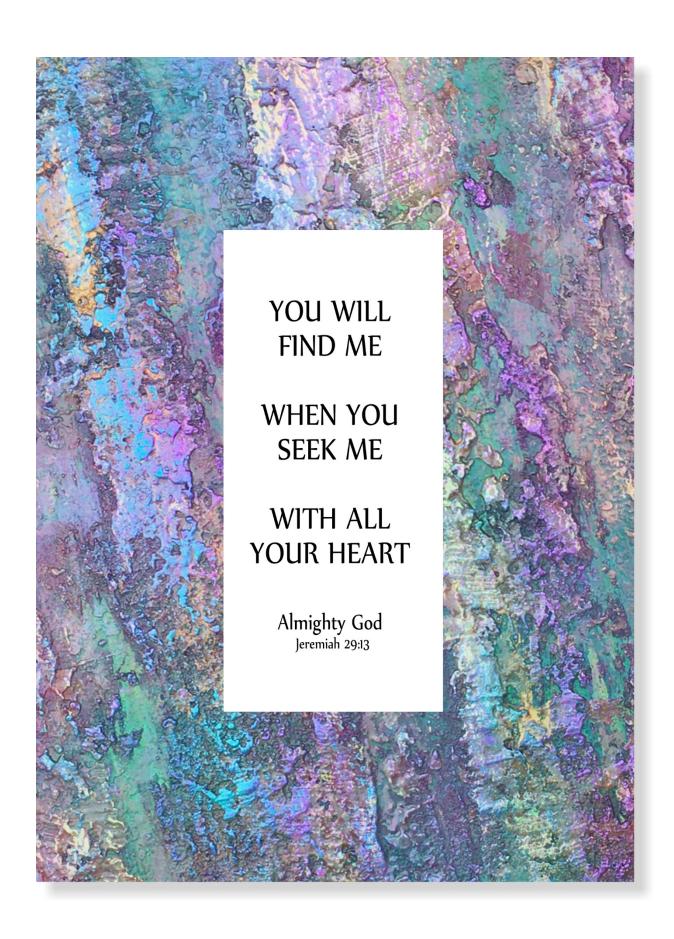
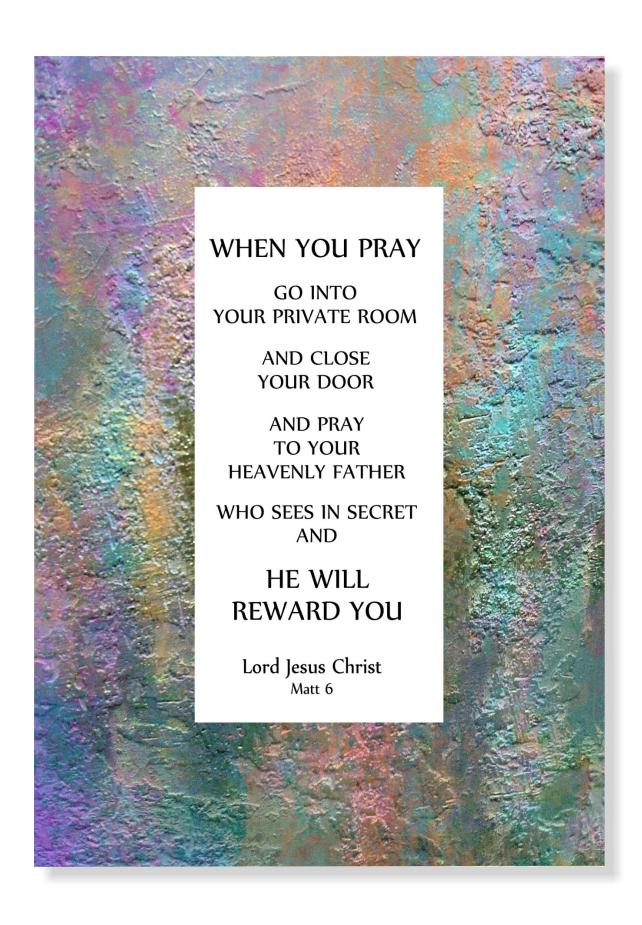
InInvitation



To a Pure Raw Church Service







A PURE, RAW CHURCH SERVICE

In the course of our spiritual transformation God "raises us" (as good parents do) in hopes that we will <u>grow-up</u> and become just like Him. (Think like Him, Act like Him, etc.)

He will not <u>make us</u> "grow up" however. We can remain an immature and ignorant son or daughter of God if we want to. This does not please Him nor glorify Him. HE WANTS US TO GROW UP AND BE A GOOD SON OR DAUGHTER.

There seems to come a time when religious services, meetings, preaching and teaching, retreats, conferences, *worship concerts* - and even our casual prayer life - no longer seem <u>LIFE</u> to us. (spiritually enriching and satisfying)

We are faced with the need to "FIND" God ourselves, alone, and hear from Him and receive from Him . . . one-on-One . . .

Just us and God.

This is a very hard stage of life. Some. . . Many?. . . <u>Maybe</u> <u>even most?</u> ...never get past this stage?

In part, this painful process happens because we all begin to take the preciousness of our relationship with Him <u>for granted</u> - and treat God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and God the Holy Spirit - <u>casually</u>. An element of disrespect usually accompanies this. This is commonly seen in our human, earthly, parent-to-child relationships and families.

Jesus said, "<u>Everyone will be salted with fire</u>."

(Mark 9)

God "hides Himself" for a number of good reasons. This stage is still excruciating. I remember one preacher saying you might have to get so desperate for God that you may need to get sick to a point of "vomiting" if need be... in our need to make contact with God and to hear from Him,

"Man shall not live on bread alone, <u>but on every Word that</u>
<u>proceeds from the mouth of God."</u> - Lord Jesus Christ

We are starving to death. There seems to be no way of escaping this part of the journey.

It is better and easier to be aware of it - and then actively face it and deal with it, rather than mask it for years with drugs, sex, alcohol, entertainment, hobbies, denial, sports, social media, clubs, etc.

This is why I push the scheduling of our personal, private God-times;

THESE ARE RAW CHURCH SERVICES, really.

It is just us and God in a room with a closed door. We have to deal with Him solely. . . and the state of our relationship with Him.

We have to deal with "Listening to Him" and "Serving Him" and finding out what this looks like in our lives.

Church services can actually be filled with all sorts of <u>distractions</u>: "nice" songs, announcements, special songs, performances, people doing all sorts of things... messages, preaching & teaching of all types and mixes... movie screens, people talking, coughing, children fussing, etc...

But when we are one-on-One in a room by ourselves. . . with God alone . . . and we have to do business with <u>God Himself</u>,

THIS IS A RAW SERVICE.

Wars of all types are fought over what God likes and doesn't like. He likes this. No, He likes that. No, He wants it done this way. No, He wants it done that way. . .

Have you ever asked Him what kinds of religious services He likes? What He enjoys?

Have you ever asked God what kind of songs or music He would like to hear? What He might want to listen to?

How about the *format* for His assemblies/meetings?

How about what kinds of things He would like us to say to Him or learn better what to pray to Him about?

How about HIS ACTUAL OPINIONS on subjects and issues?

I say my vote is for us to find out the answers to these types of questions, and <u>start doing our own private services BEFORE attending more of someone else's services</u> . Then, compare notes.
Our personal, private, God-times behind a closed door (for the purposes of "Finding God" and "Listening to Him") - are probably (for most people) the <i>PUREST CHURCH SERVICES</i> we will ever be involved in.
But first will first need to be able to consistently "FIND HIM"
TOOL 7 - WAYS TO FIND GOD
 SEEK GOD WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART. "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart." Almighty God (Jeremiah 29:13)
2. DRAW NEAR TO GOD. "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." (James 4:8)

3. GO BEFORE HIS THRONE.

"Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

4. THANK AND PRAISE HIM FOR A WHILE.

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." (Psalm 100:4 NIV

- 5. "LOVE-ON" GOD FOR A WHILE. He will love back.
- 6. GO TO A PRIVATE ROOM TO PRAY, CLOSE THE DOOR, AND PRAY TO GOD. "When you pray...go into your inner room... and your Father [will see] and reward you." Lord Jesus (Matt 6:6)
- 7. START FASTING. FAST UNTIL YOU FIND HIM.

 "When you fast [fast in secret...God will see] and God will reward you..."

 Lord Jesus (Matt 6)
- 8. PRAY IN THE SPIRIT FOR A WHILE.
- 9. HIS DAILY INTERESTS FIRST EVERY DAY.
- **10. CHECK OUR OBEDIENCE.** (See Tool 3)
- 11. GIVE GOD YOUR ULTIMATE DAY. (See Tool 5)
- 12. MAKE SURE YOU ARE GIVING ENOUGH OF YOUR MONEY TO GOD.
- 13. CRY OUT TO GOD. UNTIL YOU FIND HIM.

"The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles." (Psalm 34:17 NIV)

14. HAVE CHRISTIANS LAY HANDS ON YOU, AND TOGETHER PRAY HARD.

15...

<u>Currently not finding a local church to fit-into</u> <u>or be a part-of at this time</u>?

There is a service – early each morning – starting on our Eastern seaboard... and moving across the USA...

It is located with a bunch of others like yourself – gathered around His Throne... Seeking Him...Finding Him...Loving on Him...Serving Him.

Every morning.

