

FAST Lesson 2C: Real Men Do What God Wants – A Dynamic Connection

John Kain, 2009

- I. How do we build a relationship with someone? (Doing things together, listening to each other, and becoming interested in similar things while also caring for each other).
- II. As in any relationship that we value, our bond with God needs to start somewhere and be actively sustained by both parties. God does his part by speaking to us and inviting us into his family – adopting us as his sons and daughters, and offering the special friendship that a loving father gives to his children.
- III. Our part involves listening to God – taking into account the messages of love for us in scripture and in the world he created. Upon placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we take our place in his family and receive his Spirit. We then start walking through life under his guidance.
- IV. How do we get closer to those that we love? (By growing together, listening to each other, and walking through life together – not by standing still and not by ignoring each other).
- V. When it comes to friendship with God, we have a “responsibility to be responsive” in the relationship – God sets the pace, guiding both our morals and our activities. The key for us is to stay close to him in our thought life, to honestly want whatever he wants, and be truly ready to follow his initiative.

“While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. **Listen to him!**’ “ (Matthew 17:5)

“Because you are sons, **God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts**, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.” (Galatians 4:6-7)

“I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, **I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that

will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other.” (John 15:15-17)

“Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit **have their minds set on what the Spirit desires**. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;” (Romans 8: 5-6)

"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But **when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth**. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.” (John 16:12-15)