



Day 1 — READ Ps 42: 63-4

our souls need to be with God

God designed us with a sense of neediness that only He can fill. We may think that we don't need Him at all, or maybe we tell ourselves we need Him just a little. It only takes an accident, a diagnosis, a phone call from the police to suddenly realize that we need Him desperately. How do you thirst for God today? When was the last time you had a soul to soul conversation with God? SPEND some time talking to God about where you're at on your journey. TELL Him what's going on in your soul.

Day 2 — READ acts 43-33

our souls need to be with people who have been with God

According to this scripture, there is great power and great grace that comes from being with other followers of Jesus. Those are intangible benefits that are hard to describe. How would you explain your friendships with others who walk with God? Do you feel as if your missing this sort of friendship? Do you need some friends for your soul? Take a first step in finding friends to journey with at Group Connect on Friday night, January 30. Email Lauri to sign up (lauri.gulotta@jacobsweltec.org) or call the office at 715.833.2050.

Day 3 — READ Hebrews 10:23-27

our souls get sick when they are alone

Isolation is such a powerful spirit breaker that it's used to control people in warfare and in prison. Many of us have been hurt, and as a safeguard, we sometimes isolate ourselves. But scripture talks about living in another manner. We are prompted to meet together, encourage one another, and give each other hope. SPEND some time recognizing when you may have isolated yourself. What caused you to pull away? What's preventing you from taking a step in connecting with others?

Day 4 — READ I peter 5:7-9; I Corinthians 15:32-34

our souls have an enemy

Are you aware that your soul has an enemy? Does it make sense that his purpose is to keep you isolated and in the dark? Have you felt this way at times? Each day, no matter if you've walked with God for years or are just becoming aware of Him, we need to CHOOSE light and life.

READ Deuteronomy 30:19-20. Being with God in His word and in prayer is choosing life and inviting God to be your soul friend. TAKE some time to PRAY today. ASK God to bring your isolation into the light.

Day 5 — READ I peter 2:24-25; I Samuel 18:1

have you found true friends for your soul?

Do you believe God is the Shepherd and Overseer of your soul? Do you believe He is a friend to your soul? Do you have others who are friends for your soul? If so, TAKE the initiative this week and INVITE a friend for coffee or some other activity. ASK your friend about his/her soul. PRAY for your friends.

But maybe you've been hurt and isolated from others. We invite you to JOIN a small group that interests you or ATTEND the Group Connect event on Friday, January 30 at 6pm in the North Venue Café. SHARE your story with others, and INVITE others to share their stories with you. PRAY for God to bring a soul friend into your life.

next steps

join a group or renew your commitment to group life

reconnect with your anam cara (soul friend)

further reading

*Soul Keeping* — John Ortberg

*The Life You've Always Wanted* — John Ortberg

*The Good and Beautiful Life* — James Bryan Smith

*The Good and Beautiful God* — James Bryan Smith

*The Divine Conspiracy* — Dallas Willard