



Title: unbelieving believers I - experiencing God
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Date: 4 July 2010
Time: 17:00

Unbelieving believers

“Why do you call yourself a believer, but then you live as if I am not real?”

- A disconnect: A believer is somebody who knows that God is real. Yet somehow we become disconnected from that reality and start living as if He is not.
- What could be the reason for this? ***We are not experiencing God's on a daily basis.*

Experiencing God

The theoretical fisherman...

An unbelieving believer is a theoretical Christian. You haven't experienced His power, His presence, His miracles. The result? Unbelief sets in.

Ephesians 3:19 (NLT) ¹⁹ *May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.*

Life changing moments? The times you experience God.

The apostles life-changing experience with the Holy Spirit:

Acts 2:1–4 (NKJV) ¹ *When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Acts 2:12–13 (NKJV) ¹² *So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean?”*
¹³ *Others mocking said, “They are full of new wine.”*

We forget

Are you spending time in the presence of God?

It's not supposed to be quiet time (nothing happening), it is supposed to be experience time (something happening)!

Psalms 106:10–13 (NKJV) ¹⁰ *He saved them from the hand of him who hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. ¹¹ The waters covered their enemies; There was not one of them left. ¹² Then they believed His words; They sang His praise. ¹³ They soon forgot His works; they did not wait for His counsel,*

- *“Then they believed His words”*: the Israelites believed the words of God when they saw Him performing it. Experiencing the supernatural hand of God causes us to change our perspective about God's word and so we become believing believers.
- *“They soon forgot His works”*: Seeing an external manifestation of God's power is never enough to keep us believing believers. A miracle 20 years ago is not enough to keep us connected with God. **Moses remained connected with God.** *He saw the same miracles, but that wasn't what sustained him. The Israelites were unbelieving believers.* They complained, they tested God, they attacked Moses. What was different from them and Moses? **Moses lived in the presence of God. Moses experienced God's presence personally.** He spoke to God face to face. Moses was a believing believer and he was sustained by God's presence.

Are you stepping into His throne room?

Ephesians 3:12 (NLT) ¹² *Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.*

- **This is not theoretical!** This is real.
- **Grace is a gift. Yet a gift must still be received.** Position yourself in the presence of the giver and then receive it. *Do not receive the grace of God in vain

Ephesians 3:14 (NLT) ¹⁴ *When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father,*

Ephesians 6:18 (NKJV) ¹⁸ *praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—*

- ****How do we enter God's presence?** How do we experience God's presence on a daily basis? Prayer. Certain type of prayer. Spiritual prayer. Persevering prayer. God I come to enter Your presence.

Psalms 40:1–3 (NKJV) ¹ *I waited patiently for the LORD; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. ² He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps. ³ He has put a new song in my mouth— Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, and will trust in the LORD.*

Isaiah 40:29–31 (NKJV) ²⁹ *He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. ³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, ³¹ But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*

- **Waiting upon God?** That will lead to renewed strength. This could be called “soaking in God's presence”.
- **Mount up on wings like eagles?** Moving into the Spirit. Lifting up on the power of the Spirit, the wind of the Spirit.

Pursue that place of ongoing prayer with God. Where we experience God daily in prayer, in worship and in obedience.

Why do we live like an unbeliever? Because we don't experience God being real on a daily basis.

****Pursue an experience with God every day.**