

# Draw Nigh to God in 2023 1/1/23 AM

## Doug Stauffer

*Psalm 65:4 Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and **causest to approach unto thee**, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.*

*1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once **suffered for sins**, the just for the unjust, **that he might bring us to God**, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*

**God does not work against our will; we must make the first move**

*James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 **Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.** Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*

*Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to **enter into the holiest** by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 **Let us draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

**God's word is a catalyst to draw us to God**

*Hebrews 7:19 For the **law** made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; **by the which we draw nigh unto God.***

*Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: **for he that cometh to God** must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

**The Cross of Christ is a catalyst to draw us to God**

*John 6:43 Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves. 44 **No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him:** and I will raise him up at the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.*

*John 6:64 But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. 65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that **no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.***

- Sounds exclusive until we compare spiritual things with spiritual things.

*John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, **will draw all men unto me.***

**Example of Drawing Nigh and God drawing Nigh—Prodigal Son**

**Luke 15:17** And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! **18 I will arise and go to my father,** and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, **19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.** **20 And he arose, and came to his father.** But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, **and ran,** and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

### **Old Testament Examples: the nation of Israel/Saul and Priest**

**Deuteronomy 4:7** For what nation is there so great, **who hath God so nigh unto them,** as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

#### **Example of Prayer Drawing Nigh to God**

**1 Samuel 14:36** And Saul said, Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them. And they said, Do whatsoever seemeth good unto thee. Then said the priest, **Let us draw near hither unto God.** **37** And Saul asked counsel of God, Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into the hand of Israel? But he answered him not that day.

**Psalms 66:16** Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

My 2023 New Year's Resolution: Draw Nigh unto God (every day and in every way).