

Dear Lillian UMC family,

I trust the past thirty days of seeking God have been fruitful. I pray that He has revealed Himself to you in a new and probably unexpected fashion. Now that we have established a routine for 30 days, may we continue this habit of seeking God daily.

Psalms 103 says "He (God) made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel." There is a clear distinction between the "ways" of God, and the "acts" of God. We can only know the "ways" of God as He reveals them to us. His "ways" involve His character, His attributes, and His nature. He reveals these things as He reveals Himself through His Word and daily prayer. It pleases God to establish a personal relationship with His adopted children, justified and reconciled through Christ. (Romans 5 & 8)

His "acts" are there for all to see. They require no spiritual insight. They require no relationship with God. His "acts" of mercy and kindness, blessing and protection, are self-evident.

It is somewhat like being a ticket buying audience member of a play, who watches and enjoys, then simply goes home. As opposed to someone who is a relative of the theater owner, a close friend of the lead character, and roommate of the director. That person, whose ticket is already paid, enjoys the play, then goes backstage to enjoy their friendship and family ties with those who produced the play. There, one discovers the thoughts behind the play, the efforts made to put on the play, and the future plans for the next play.

If our life is only that of an audience member, merely watching a play being acted in front of us, we have failed to live up to what we were created to be. We were created to know and have a relationship with the True and Living God. He invites us backstage to enjoy His company and friendship. He paid the price of admission with His own blood. He will spend time with you, if only you will seek to spend time with Him.

*"My son, give Me your heart, and let your eyes observe My ways."*

~ Proverbs 23

In Christ,  
Perry Cunningham  
Lay Leader