

Negotiation

From "Negotiating with God" by Kevin Rachel

The very idea of negotiating seems incredibly presumptuous. And, it is — or at least it would be except that God lovingly calls us to know Him!



Who was told to command stones to become bread?

God calls us to be involved with Him and to grow with Him.

At the heart of all negotiations is the desire to transform discord into harmony. I believe that this is also an excellent description of spiritual growth. We seek to understand God better so that our thoughts will be more in line with His purposes and our actions more in conformity with His will. Like tributaries that flow into a mighty river, we want the various aspects of our lives to come together in a spiritual direction that leads our hearts and minds toward agreement with the purposes for which God created us. When we do so, we have a “deeper” and “closer” relationship with God which is reflected in a more confident understanding of His will (faith), a renewed sense of priorities (commitment), a feeling of security in His care (peace), and an appreciation for His love (thankfulness).

The Bible consistently presents God as reaching out to His people to lead them down the path towards a knowledge and understanding of the One who created us. God has patiently interacted with mankind throughout history to give us the opportunity to have a relationship with Him. He cares for us, and He wants us to be part of His existence. Our spiritual journey is to be responsive to His invitation, by striving to transform the discord in our lives into harmony with God. This is the sense in which we should always be engaged in “negotiations with God.”

Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV) “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

To all our visitors: *Please feel free to participate!*

You should expect to hear singing with voices only, a few “family” announcements, prayers spoken, and see the Lord’s Supper offered, then free-willed giving, and Gospel preaching from the Bible.

Any response is up to you and will be kindly received.

We are glad you decided to worship God with us!

Bday/Anniv Lunch: 2nd Sunday
Friday Bible Study: 7—8PM. God bless your Bible study (2 Timothy 2:15)!
Wedding Shower: for Becky Pickle at Western Heights (1/26).
Activity Night: on Sunday (1/26) after PM service. Bring your own dinner.