

ELEVATE
JULY 12, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

Experiencing more of God doesn't happen because we want it to. It happens because we do our part to make it happen. We don't lose weight because we want to, we lose it when we do our part to make it happen. To experience something higher in God, we must do our part. We must elevate in certain areas of our lives, so God can do His part. Elevate means to raise or lift up to a higher position or level or importance.

THINGS TO RAISE TO A HIGHER LEVEL

1. Our focus. **PSALMS 121:1-2**
 - A. God wants us to look to Him for all things, "my eyes are on you" Jehoshaphat said. There's something higher than what man can do.
 - B. David was aware of a higher place. **PSALMS 61:1-3 (ESV)** To ancient Israel, that rock was a place of refuge, and a symbol of God's love, protection and security.
1 CORINTHIANS 10:4 That rock was Christ.
 - C. **JOB 22:21 (AMPC)** – Our part is to get to know Him, agree with Him and conform to His will. Our eyes are to be on Him.
2. Our thinking. **COLOSINIANS 3:1-3 (ESV)**
 - A. We are not to be so earthly-minded that we're no heavenly good. We must constantly be thinking on what Christ has done for us and is doing for us now at the right hand of God.
 - B. We are not to be passive about these things. As we think, so are we. God wants us in tune with what He's done and what He wants to do now for us on earth.
3. Our understanding. – **COLOSINIANS 1:9-10**
 - A. Of spiritual laws and principles. **GENESIS 1:1-5** The environment was dark, chaotic and hopeless. The things needed to create change are revealed.
 - God, the creative power of the spirit, the spoken Word and God's glory. This is not a reference to the sun, moon or stars, they came on the fourth day.
 - God did His part, now we must speak His Word and release the creative powers of His Spirit in our circumstances so He can lift us up to a place of victory.
4. Our actions. **JAMES 1:22-25**
 - A. We reap what we sow. As we seek God's face, speak His Word and spend time in prayer, praise and worship, we create an atmosphere where God can lift us up to higher places in Him.
 - B. We must clean house and do laundry if we want elevated to higher places in Him.
 - We can speak to a mountain of laundry and tell it to be clean, folded and put away. But nothing will happen until we do our part. The same is true spiritually according to Paul. **COLOSINIANS 3:5-10, EPHESIANS 5:1-5, GALATIANS 5:16-25, 2 CORINTHIANS 7:1**
 - By cleaning house and doing laundry, we make more room for God's glory to manifest.
 - Unbelief must be removed and swept clean from our hearts.

CONCLUSION:

There are no limits to what we can experience in God. If we want elevated to a higher place than where we are, if we do our part, God will do His.