



## CLOSER

### Part 2: "Lifetime Guarantee"

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## I'M ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED TO GET CLOSER TO GOD WHEN I...

### 1. ...SPEND TIME AT THE PLACES WHERE GOD HANGS OUT

*"They came to the house where the child was and saw him with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. They opened their gifts and gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."*

**Matthew 2:11** (NCV)

- God hangs out in ISOLATION

*"When you pray, you should go into your room and close the door and pray to your Father who cannot be seen. Your Father can see what is done in secret, and he will reward you."*

**Matthew 6:6** (NCV)

1.

- **AND God hangs out in POPULATION**

*“So, friends, we can now—without hesitation—walk right up to God, into ‘the Holy Place.’ Jesus has cleared the way by the blood of his sacrifice, acting as our priest before God. The ‘curtain’ into God’s presence is his body. So let’s do it—full of belief, confident that we’re presentable inside and out. Let’s keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.*

**Hebrews 10:19-25 (MSG)**

## **2. ...FOLLOW THE PEOPLE WHO ARE FOLLOWING CLOSE TO HIM**

*“As soon as the heavenly messengers disappeared into heaven, the shepherds were buzzing with conversation. ‘Let’s rush down to Bethlehem right now! Let’s see what’s happening! Let’s experience what the Lord has told us about!’ So they ran into town, and eventually they found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the feeding trough.”*

**Luke 2:15-16 (TVB)**

*“Come near to God, and God will come near to you. You sinners, clean sin out of your lives. You who are trying to follow God and the world at the*

*same time, make your thinking pure. Be sad, cry, and weep! Change your laughter into crying and your joy into sadness. Humble yourself in the Lord's presence, and he will honor you."*

**James 4:8-10** (NCV)

*"I want you to pattern your lives after me, just as I pattern mine after Christ."*

**1 Corinthians 11:1** (TPT)

### **3. ...DO THE KINDS OF THINGS THAT GOD ACTAULLY CARES ABOUT**

- **Care for BODIES**

*"Jesus, knowing their thoughts, called them to his side and said, 'Kings and those with great authority in this world rule oppressively over their subjects, like tyrants. But this is not your calling. You will lead by a completely different model. The greatest one among you will live as the one who is called to serve others, because the greatest honor and authority is reserved for the one with the heart of a servant. For even the Son of Man did not come expecting to be served by everyone, but to serve everyone, and to give his life in exchange for the salvation of many."*

**Matthew 20:25-28** (TPT)

- Care for **SOULS**

*“Now the Lord is not slow about enacting His promise—slow is how some people want to characterize it—no, He is not slow but patient and merciful to you, not wanting anyone to be destroyed, but wanting everyone to turn away from following his own path and to turn toward God’s.”*

**2 Peter 3:9** (TVB)

*“Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages. He taught in their synagogues and told people the Good News about God’s kingdom. He healed all kinds of diseases and sicknesses. Jesus saw the many people and felt sorry for them because they were worried and helpless—like sheep without a shepherd to lead them. Jesus said to his followers, ‘There is such a big harvest of people to bring in. But there are only a few workers to help harvest them. God owns the harvest. Ask him to send more workers to help gather his harvest.’”*

**Matthew 9:35-38** (ERV)