



**Ephesians 2:12-13 (Phillips)** *You were without Christ . . . You had nothing to look forward to and no God to whom you could turn. But now, through the blood of Christ, you who were once outside the pale [the covenants of promise] are with us inside the circle of God's love and purpose.*

Everything changes inside the circle.

**Colossians 1:12-13 (NKJV)** *Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and [has] conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.*

The \_\_\_\_\_ I am to God, the less \_\_\_\_\_ is around me and the more freedom I \_\_\_\_\_.

### **What's the Power of Darkness?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 26:18 (AMP)** *I am sending you, to open their [spiritual] eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness and release from their sins.*

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ecclesiastes 5:17 (Expanded Bible)** *All they get are days full of sadness and sorrow [They eat all their days in darkness], and they end up sick, defeated, and angry [frustrated].*

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Isaiah 42:6-7 (Lamsa)** *I the LORD have called you in righteousness . . . . That you may open the eyes of the blind, to release prisoners from bondage [addiction], and bring out of the prison house those who sit in darkness.*

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 10:38 (KJV)** *God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

The closer I am to God, the less darkness is around me and the more freedom I experience.

## How Do I Draw Close To God?

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**James 1:25 (Phillips)** *The man who looks into the perfect mirror of God's law, the law of liberty (or freedom), and makes a habit of so doing, is not the man who sees and forgets. He puts that law into practice and he wins true happiness.*

**Psalms 119:130 (ERV)** *As people understand your word, it brings light to their lives. Your word makes even simple people wise.*

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**Romans 1:21-23 (NIV)** *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

**Psalms 89:15 (World English)** *Blessed are the people who learn to acclaim [worship/praise] you. They walk in the light of your presence, Yahweh. In your name they rejoice all day.*

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**Acts 10:30 (MSG)** *Cornelius said, "Four days ago at about this time, midafternoon, I was home praying. Suddenly there was a man right in front of me, flooding the room with light."*

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**2 Corinthians 6:14 (GWT)** *Stop forming inappropriate relationships with unbelievers . . . . Can light have anything in common with darkness?*



**Ephesians 2:12-13 (Phillips)** *You were without Christ . . . You had nothing to look forward to and no God to whom you could turn. But now, through the blood of Christ, you who were once outside the pale [the covenants of promise] are with us inside the circle of God's love and purpose.*

Everything changes inside the circle – You are loved, accepted, & forgiven. You're a victor, prosperous, & a success. You are worthy, qualified, & righteous. **You are healed, delivered, and free.**

**Colossians 1:12-13 (NKJV)** *Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered [to rescue and free by pulling you to Himself] us from the power of darkness and [has] conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.*

The **closer** I am to God, the less **darkness** is around me and the more freedom I **experience**.

## **What's the Power of Darkness?**

### **1. Sin and Selfishness.**

**Acts 26:18 (AMP)** *I am sending you, to open their [spiritual] eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness and release from their sins.*

### **2. Sorrow and Depression.**

**Ecclesiastes 5:17 (Expanded Bible)** *All they get are days full of sadness and sorrow [They eat all their days in darkness], and they end up sick, defeated, and angry [frustrated].*

### **3. Addiction and Bondage.**

**Isaiah 42:6-7 (Lamsa)** *I the LORD have called you in righteousness . . . That you may open the eyes of the blind, to release prisoners from bondage [addiction], and bring out of the prison house those who sit in darkness.*

### **4. Sickness and Disease.**

Satan uses these things to keep you from living the life you were destined for.

**Acts 10:38 (KJV)** *God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

The closer I am to God, the less darkness is around me and the more freedom I experience. Light expels darkness.

## How Do I Draw Close To God?

- **God's Word.**

**James 1:25 (Phillips)** *The man who looks into the perfect mirror of God's law, the law of liberty (or freedom), and makes a habit of so doing, is not the man who sees and forgets. He puts that law into practice and he wins true happiness.*

**Psalms 119:130 (ERV)** *As people understand your word, it brings light to their lives. Your word makes even simple people wise.*

- **Worship.** The more we open our hearts up to God in worship, the more tangible God's presence will become in our lives.

**Romans 1:21-23 (NIV)** *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

**Psalms 89:15 (World English)** *Blessed are the people who learn to acclaim [worship/praise] you. They walk in the light of your presence, Yahweh. In your name they rejoice all day.*

- **Prayer.** Prayer is simply talking to God. God wants to be our best friend. He doesn't want us distant. He wants us close.

**Acts 10:30 (MSG)** *Cornelius said, "Four days ago at about this time, midafternoon, I was home praying. Suddenly there was a man right in front of me, flooding the room with light."*

- **Relationships.**

**2 Corinthians 6:14 (GWT)** *Stop forming inappropriate relationships with unbelievers . . . . Can light have anything in common with darkness?*