

SELAH-GRAM

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Greetings!

Thanks for clicking this weeks SelahGram. Karyn and I pray it causes you to pause and ponder: Selah.

March 21, 2008

The Crisis Facing Today's Church



The greatest challenge facing the church today is NOT a lack of cultural relevance. It is this: recognizing that there is a vast difference between discussion **about God** and genuine encounter **with God**. The church must reprioritize between group therapy and personal encounter. Even in the "good" churches our services tend to focus primarily on instruction **about** kingdom principle and **about** principles for righteous living (all noble and valid) rather than becoming a laboratory-an incubator for encountering God face-to-face!

The tragic result is that for any believer to truly discover the treasure of a secret place with God, they must virtually do it on their own, having heard rumors about it at church, yet never truly experiencing...

Is the purpose of the church to instruct **about** glorious God-encounters or to actually pursue them? ...To discuss the depths from the riverbank-or to launch out into the deep? In truth, *the "depth" of the discussion and revelation means nothing if it fails to inspire and compel a fervent personal pursuit.*



In Conclusion...

God's Jer.29:13 guarantee does NOT read, "You shall seek me and find me when you search for me as an appetizer to the main event, when your search is an hors d'oeuvre-a snack before the main course of simply learning more **about** the kingdom. *'Missing the mark'* is how the Bible characterizes **sin**--an unfortunate description of the focus of much of the church today. Selah!

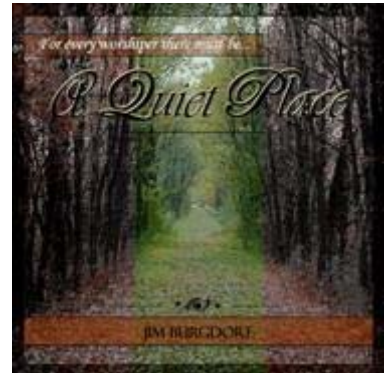
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must be **A Quiet Place**" Jim's new worship CD



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