

The Interview

You are invited to imagine yourself within this story:

I just hung up the phone and my head is spinning. How could I be so blessed? Of all the VIPs in the whole world the one that I admire and respect the most just invited me to personally meet with him! I am so amazed and overwhelmed, I just can't believe it. This is the dream of my life time. This ranks higher for me than winning a gold medal in the Olympics.

Now I must prepare myself to meet with him and I have so little time. I have to make some changes in my plans. This interview is now the top priority in my schedule. My friends and colleagues will surely understand how important this is when I tell them who I am meeting with.

I need to get my hair cut and I also need to buy new clothes so that I show him the proper respect that he deserves when I meet with him. There are so many details to think of to prepare myself so that the precious time that we will spend together will not be wasted.

I do not want to miss a single question in my coming interview so I make a list of everything I want to ask him. It's a long list because I want to learn from all his great wisdom.

Soon the appointed day arrives and I am so excited I wake up two hours early. I take the extra time to prepare myself for the interview by washing and dressing carefully. I then take some time to put my daily distractions out of my mind and focus on what I am going to ask him.

Then the incredible moment arrives. As I approach the doorway to his room an attendant holds out a rich clean robe for me to put on. I hesitate and tell him that all my clothes are new and clean. Then he tells me that they are not nearly clean enough. As I put on the robe I sense a deep spiritual cleansing that I can not explain.

I am then invited to enter through the door into his room. I look around the room and immediately sense the power, wisdom, love and presences of the one who inhabits this place. I am in awe and I am also immediately humbled by the thought, 'Why was I even allowed to enter?' And how could I be so blessed to be invited into the presence of such an incredibly important and wise person.

He asks me to sit down in such a pleasant way that I feel like I have known him all my life. Then he says to me "What would you like to ask me? I am listening." He speaks in such a patient way that I know that he is focused on me and what I am saying. He gives me the impression that he is enjoying our meeting more than I am.

I am so intent on not missing one of my questions that I read through my complete list without stopping or letting him speak. When I finally come to the end and stop reading my list of questions and requests to him I feel embarrassed by how long my list is and at the same time how incomplete it is.

I wait impatiently for his answers. He senses my discomfort and proceeded to put me at ease. After what seems like a long time he starts to speak to me slowly in the most still and quiet voice that I strain to hear every word. I feel such complete understanding, patience and love coming from him that I quickly understand that he knows far more about me personally than I could have ever imagined.

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He reminds me of things about myself that I had long forgotten. He then invites me to ask for forgiveness for all that I have done wrong. He also invites me to forgive myself. Then he tells me not to look back because nothing will change my history. After I do as he instructs me I have such a feeling of release and freedom!

He then tells me that all my requests and questions will be answered in time in the most personal and creative ways that I could never imagine. These answers will unfold and be revealed to me as my life continues. Each revelation will fit perfectly into place and time in my life and will become clearer as each detail is added. He assures me that every thing will come into place in my life like a finely designed and woven tapestry if I only trust in his planning and follow his guidance. Some requests will however not be granted because they are not in my best interest or in his overall master plan.

He shares his wisdom that speaks deeply into my heart. What he says is both simple and profound. I start to realize that my understanding of things is being transformed in a life changing way. He speaks to me like both a father and a friend.

The interview ends sooner than I wanted it to. Everything that he told me started me thinking of even more questions. He could sense what I was thinking so he told me to go home and start putting into practice what he had told me. He said that my life was not fulfilled by the planning but by the being and the experience. He then tells me that if I have any questions at all in the future I could arrange to meet with him again. He will make himself available to me whenever I feel the need to talk with him. He encourages me to come to him often.

As I left he handed me a book explaining that he had it written to explain his plan for my life and the relationship which he wanted to have with me. He told me that it includes many biographies to illustrate his relationship with others who had followed his way. These people included in the book all had struggles in their lives, but he guided them all through them with patience, love, mercy, and grace. He said if I did not understand anything in his book that I should feel free to call him anytime.

I thank him for sharing his wisdom and profound plan and guidance for my life, but my thank you seems so inadequate for the priceless gifts that I had just received and the open access that he was giving to me for my future. I left his presence hungry for more and yet not able to comprehend the vast scope of what I had just learned.

I am already eagerly planning the next time that we will meet together again and how I will arrange my schedule to spend more time with him in our next meeting.

This story is a parable about some lessons I have learned in my personal prayer time with God. I share with you the following insights that I have learned about prayer:

Lord God is the Creator of all heaven, earth and each of us. His invitation to us to come into His presences and communicate with Him is one of the greatest privileges that He has given each of us. God gives each of us the free choice to accept His invitation and to plan the time in our schedule to meet with Him.

Because of this high privilege I make prayer, the Word and loving the Lord the highest priority in my life.

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I come into the presence of God humbly and give Him the respect that He so richly deserves.

I prepare for prayer by writing down my questions and petitions so I can praise God for the answers to my prayers when I receive them.

I relax, seek peace and put distractions aside.

We do not have the right to approach God on our own. We only have the right to approach God clothed in the righteousness given to us by the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. I ask God always in the name of His Son Jesus.

I approach God in awe of His power and acknowledge His extravagant love for me.

God enjoys fellowship with us and knows the depth of our hearts beyond our own understanding.

God invites us to ask Him for anything. He says in His word that we have not because we ask not.

What God has to communicate to us is infinitely more important than what we have to say to Him. So I wait to hear His still small voice.

I prepare to enter his presence by confessing my sins and forgiving others as these are barriers between me and coming into the presence of a Holy God. God forgives me of all the things that I have done which separate me from Him. I also must forgive myself to be free of my past.

God answers all our prayers in His perfect will and His perfect way as yes, no or wait. The answer is always given at the best time in my life as only God can arrange.

God reveals to me deep truth and wisdom in a way that I can understand.

I try to put into action what God reveals to me. As obedience to His will brings me into a deeper understanding of Him and the purpose that He has for my life.

The Bible is the primary why that God shares His truth with me. The more I read His word the more He reveals His heart to me.

I thank God for giving me His Son, love, blessings and gifts. It is the very least that I can give Him in return for giving me His very life to live in me and through me.

The more time I spend in prayer the hungrier I become to know God more.

I believe that prayer will change your life if you are willing to take the time, listen, obey and thank God.

I pray that God will speak to you through this story and these personal insights and draw you into a deeper personal relationship with Him through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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May God richly bless you as you draw nearer to Him. Abiding in Christ, Peter