

# The Power of With

*In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was **with** God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning **with** God. John 1:1-2 NASB 95*

**ICEBREAKER:** Recall a time when you had a conversation with someone in person when it would have been easier for them to simply call or just send you a message? How did that affect you?

1. As Christians, we worship the “with God”.

a. The “with God” is never alone.

*But the time is coming—indeed it’s here now—when you will be scattered, each one going his own way, leaving me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is **with** me. John 16:32 NLT*

**DISCUSSION:** It’s no different for God to be 3-in-1 relationship than it is for us to have two arms & two legs; we simply accept it. However, we have a tendency to avoid getting to that really deep place with those who are in our lives. Why? What are some things that you have an inclination to do alone or not in relationship with others that you should be sharing with others?

b. The “with God” does not speak on his own.

*Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. John 14:10 NLT*

**DISCUSSION:** How often do you speak on semi-important or important matters without consulting God “face-to-face?” How am do you get “face-to-face” with God? How do or can you get “face-to-face” with others?

**DISCUSSION:** What kinds of things do you try to be an “authority” on where you don’t allow your views to be balanced by others or God? (ie: sports, politics, the Bible, social justice, etc.)

c. The “with God” is passionate about being with people.

**DISCUSSION:** Outside of this small group, how are you living your life with others? How are you passionate about being with people? Maybe you’re not passionate about being with people. Do you know why?

*God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship **with** His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 1Cor. 1:9 NASB 95*

2. Wouldn't a "with God" want his followers to be with worshippers?

**DISCUSSION:** Many people talk about their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. However, if you were to rate your "corporate" relationship with Jesus Christ on a scale of 1 to 10 (1 = poor, 10 = great), how would you fare? Explain.

*If we say that we have fellowship **with** Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship **with** one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1John 1:6-7 NASB 95*

**DISCUSSION:** How are you living out God's vision of reconciliation (right relationship); you to Him and to others? Where are you not living that vision? Where do you need to seek reconciliation?

Who am I with?

Most Christians go to church alone.  
Most Christians pray alone.  
Most Christians cry alone.  
Most Christians die alone.

**DISCUSSION:** God wants us to imitate and reflect Him (see *Eph 5:1*). How are you doing that? How do you specifically train yourself for imitating God?

What is the problem? We are the Country of "I"

What is the root cause? "sin"

What is the answer? Becoming the Kingdom of "with"

**PRAYER PROJECT:** Sit alone with God for 10-15 minutes and ask Him to show you what it is about yourself that keeps you from being "with" God & others? Ask Him to show you where you are lacking. Don't move to fix it yet. Simply ask Him to explore the areas that prevent you from fully being with Him and others.