





Our Relationship With Christ

Sovereign Commander Of The Angels

- ▣ **Matthew 28:18** - “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given me in heaven and earth**”.
- ▣ **Ephesians 1:20-21** – “**far above all ... power... and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come**”.
- ▣ **Philippians 2:9-10** – “**given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth**”.
- ▣ **1 Peter 3:22** – “**Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him**”.

Priestly Intercessor For The Saints





-  **Romans 8:34** - “It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even **at the right hand of God**, who also **maketh intercession for us**”.
-  **Hebrews 7:25** – “Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that **come unto God** by him, seeing he ever liveth to **make intercession for them**”.
-  **Hebrews 9:24** – “For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands... but into heaven itself, **now to appear in the presence of God for us**”.
-  **1 John 2:1-2** - “And if any man sin **we have an advocate with the Father**, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins”.

Appointed Opener Of The Scroll

- ❖ “The Father... had reserved a knowledge of the times and seasons, and their events filling the interval between Christ’s departure and returning. The sealed scroll in the right hand was a perfect symbol of the fact that the knowledge and control of the future was entirely in the power of the Father up to the moment that both were imparted to Jesus.
- ❖ “The opening of the seals may be taken as the attainment by the Opener, of the knowledge of the Divine purpose, and the development of the events following as his carrying that knowledge into effect in causing the events to transpire.”

Thirteen Lectures, Pages 34-35
Robert Roberts

Authorised Controller Of Providence

-  **Philippians 2:19,24** - “But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you... I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly”.
-  **1 Thessalonians 3:11-12** - “Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you... and make you increase and abound in love”.
-  **2 Thessalonians 2:16-17** - “Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, comfort your hearts, and stablsh you in every good word”.
-  **2 Timothy 4:17** - “Notwithstanding, the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me... and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion”.

Key Participant In The Throne Room

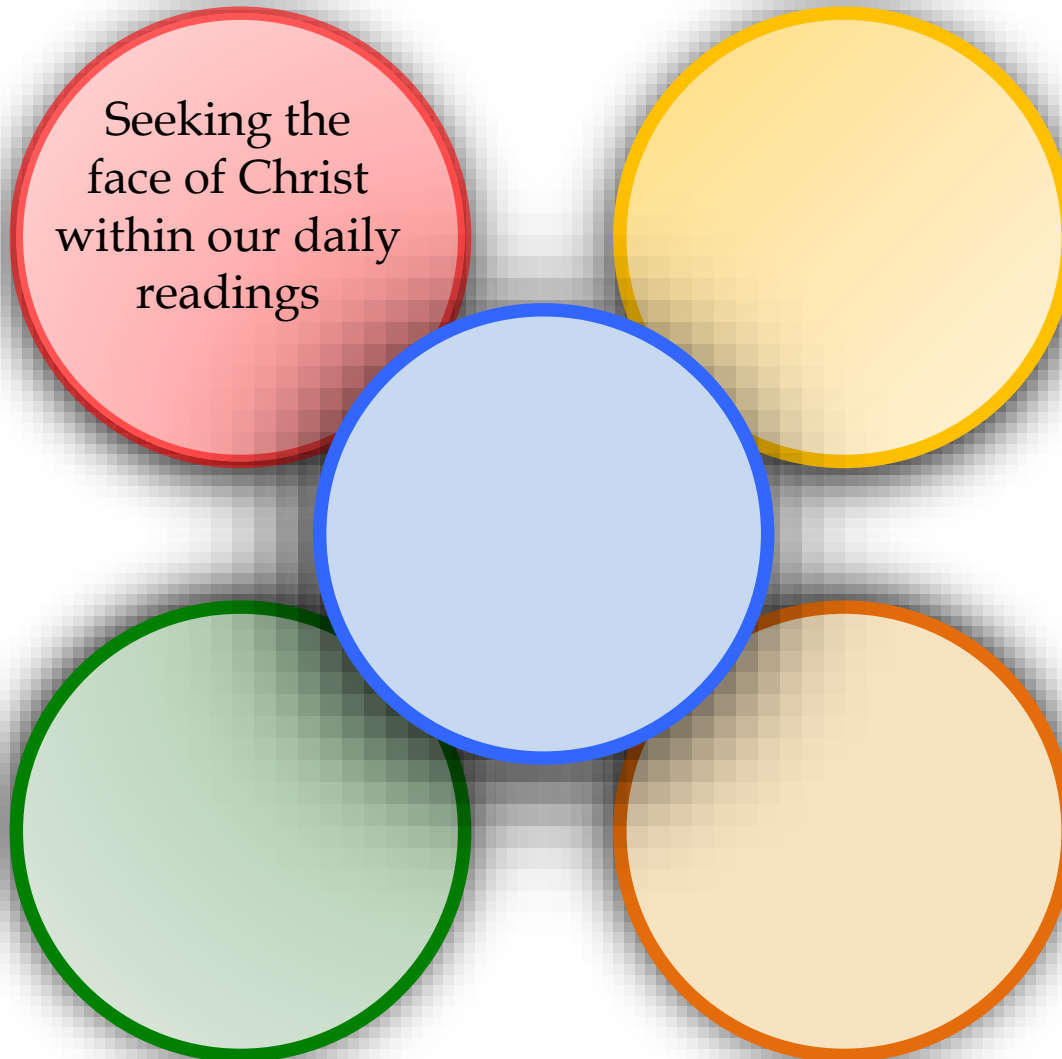
- **Matthew 18:10** - “despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you... in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven”.
- **Revelation 3:21** - “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne”.
- **Hebrews 1:13-14** - “But to which of the angels said he at any time, sit on my right hand... Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister?”
- **1 Timothy 5:21** - “I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one another”.



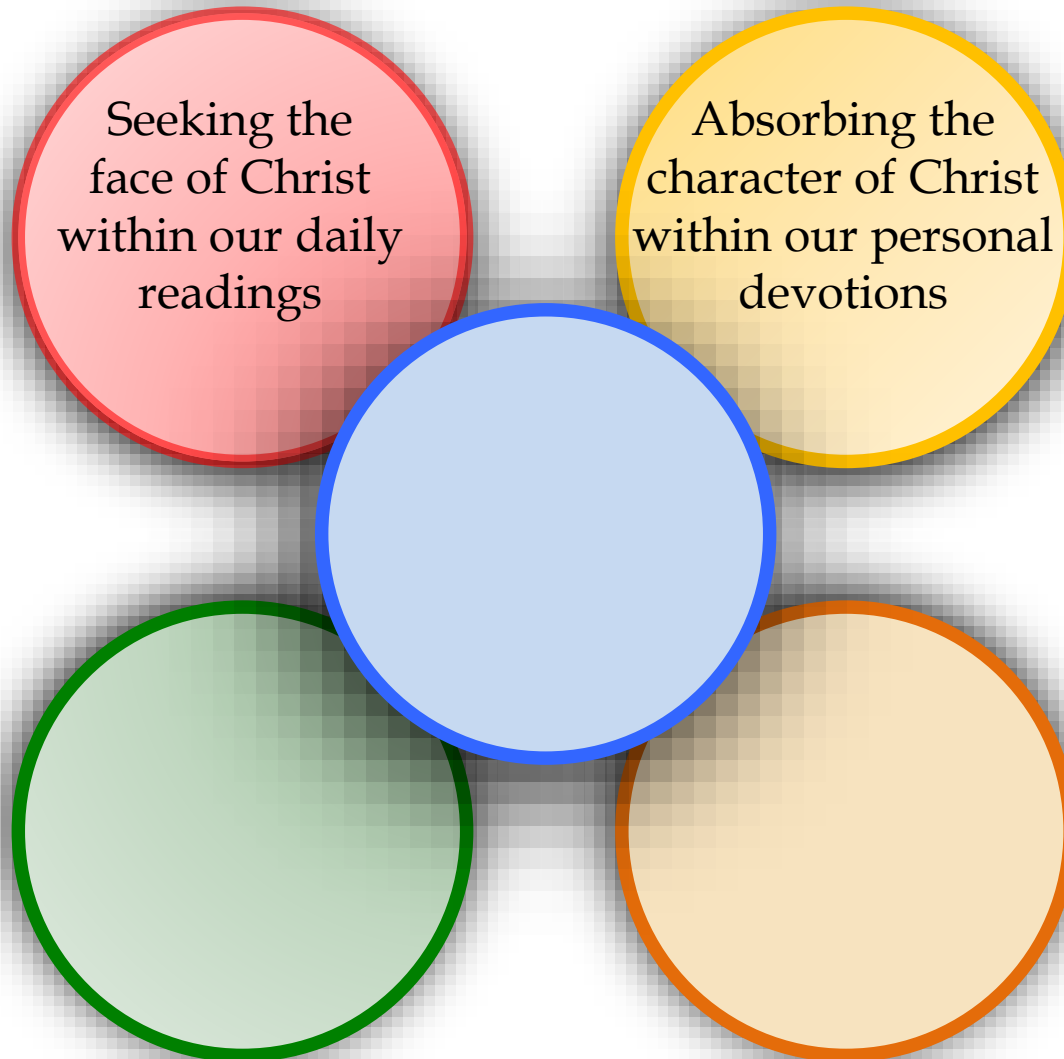
Our Relationship With Christ

**The Absent Bridegroom
Of The Bride**




Seeking The Face Of Christ



Absorbing The Character Of Christ



The Commandments Of Christ

-  **John 14:21** - “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and manifest myself to him”.
-  **Acts 1:1-2** – “of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Spirit had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen”.
-  **John 15:9-10** – “As the Father hath loved me, so I have loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.

The Commandments Of Christ

One copy on the mirror

As the day begins, we should remember that it is the face of the absent bridegroom we wish to reveal, and that our dress and deportment should prove it.

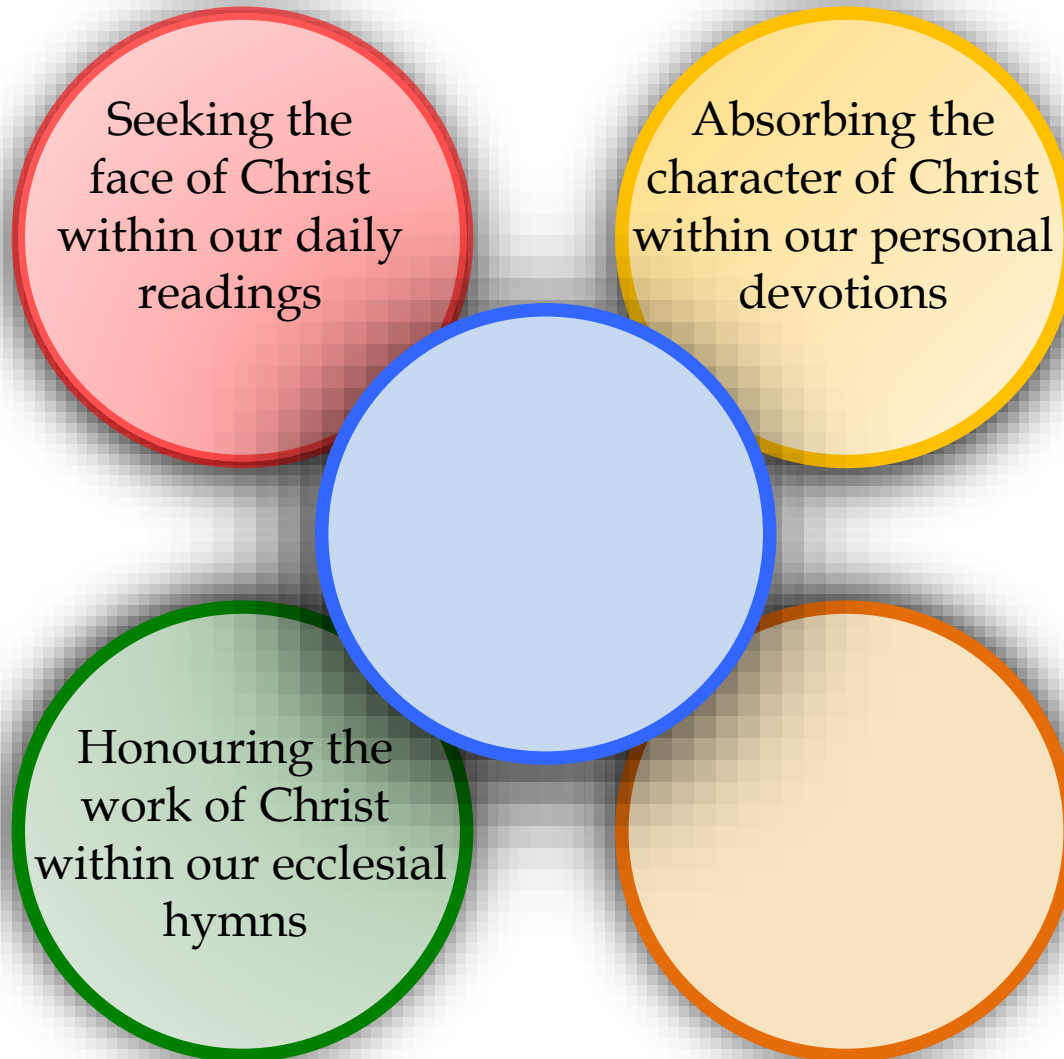
One copy in the lunchbox

Half the day has come and gone, but there is still time to read our commandment, and seek to fulfil its spirit throughout the afternoon and evening.





One copy on the pillow

As the night comes, it brings a final opportunity to reflect on whether the spirit of Christ was seen in our thoughts and words and deeds throughout the day.

Honouring The Work Of Christ



The Poetic Context Of Hymns

-  **Hymn 294:1** - "Hail to **the brightness** of Zion's glad morning, Joy to the lands that in darkness have lain, hushed be the accents of sorrow and mourning".
-  **Hymn 323:1** - "Wake, **harp of Zion**, wake again, upon thine ancient hill, On Jordan's long deserted plain, by Kedron's lowly rill".
-  **Hymn 340:1** - "Begone, **unbelief!** Our Saviour is near, And for our relief, Will surely appear, Though rough winds may wrestle - Our God will perform".
-  **Hymn 400:1** - "'Hear! hear! **O earth'**, the watchmen cry, The great millennial day draws nigh, To Abr'am's faithful race".

Hymns Addressed To Christ



An ascription of honour

Hymn 306:2 - “Jesus is worthy to receive, Honour and power divine, and blessings more than we can give”.

John 5:23 – “That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father”.



A confession of status

Hymn 257:1 - “Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son, Endless is the victory, thou o’er death hast won”.

2 Peter 3:18 – “grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now, and for ever. Amen”.

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Hymns Addressed To Christ



A statement of truth

Hymn 214:4 - “Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: Grant us that way to know”.

John 6:68-69 – “Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the word of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ”.



An expression of thanks

Hymn 380:3 - “We thank thee thou hast blessed us thus; the hope of glory, Christ in us”.

1 Timothy 1:12 – “And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry”.

Hymns Addressed To Christ

A soliloquy of faith

Hymn 215:3 - “But **we believe** that angels said, “Why seek the living with the dead?”.

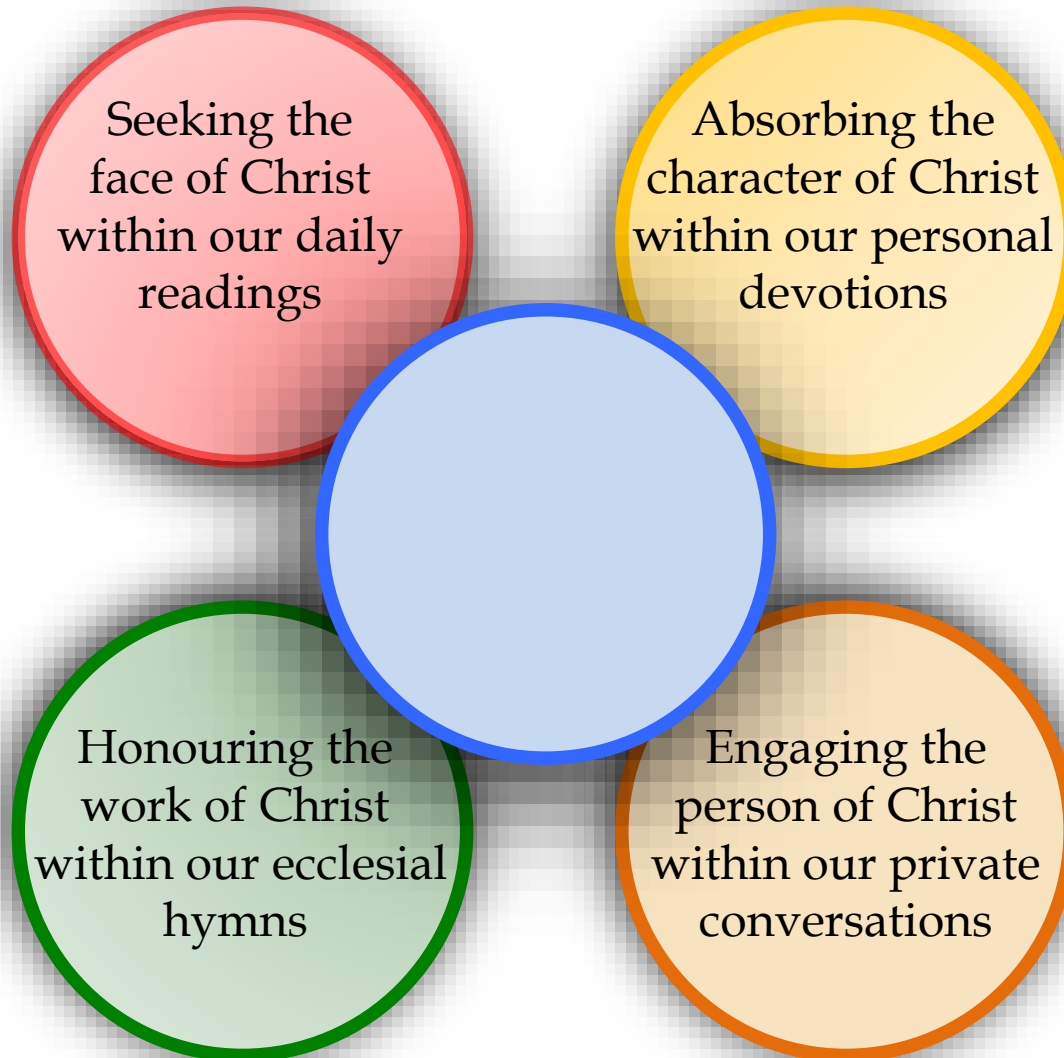
1 Thessalonians 4:14 – “For if **we believe** that Jesus died and rose again, even so also them which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him”.

An entreaty for return




Hymn 89:3 - “**Come, Lord Jesus, come now quickly:** Open soon the Book of Life”.

Revelation 22:20 – “He which testifieth these things saith, **Surely I come quickly.** Amen.
Even so, come Lord Jesus”.





Engaging The Person Of Christ



The Teaching Of Christ On Prayer

-  **John 14:12-14** - “I go unto my Father. And **whatsoever ye shall ask in my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name I will do it”.
-  **John 15:7,16** – “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you... that **whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name**, he may give it you”.
-  **John 16:23-24** – “in that day ye shall ask me nothing... **Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name**, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

Apostolic Counsel On Prayer

-  **Ephesians 5:20** - “Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”.
-  **Philippians 4:6** - “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God”.
-  **Hebrews 13:15** - “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name”.
-  **James 1:5** - “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given”.

Public Prayer To The Father

- ❖ “Prayer to Jesus is not exemplified in the scriptures or prescribed by him. The model prayer he gave to the disciples is addressed to the Father. Afterwards, he added, “ask the Father in my name”.
- ❖ “If we were to meet him as we hope to do at his coming, we should naturally address him in praise, as John heard the ransomed do. (But) the danger in public prayers to Christ would lie in their tendency to conceal the Father. When, at the name of Jesus every knee bows and every tongue confesses, it is “to the glory of God the Father.”

Private Conversation With Christ

- ❖ “We give thanks to God, through our Lord Jesus. Yet this need not exclude such prayers... (**subordinately permissible to him**) as are illustrated in ‘Lord Jesus come quickly’, ‘Lord, save me’, ‘I thank Christ Jesus our Lord’ ”.
- ❖ “If Jesus were on earth, and we were to meet him, would we not do homage and make request of his favour? Undoubtedly. Well, he lives, and though we see him not, he sees us, and has all power for it is given to him, and symbolised in the seven horns and seven eyes of the slain lamb. **He is able to succour those who are tempted... shall we not make request**”?

The Christadelphian, Vol. 10, Page 233
Robert Roberts

Private Conversation With Christ

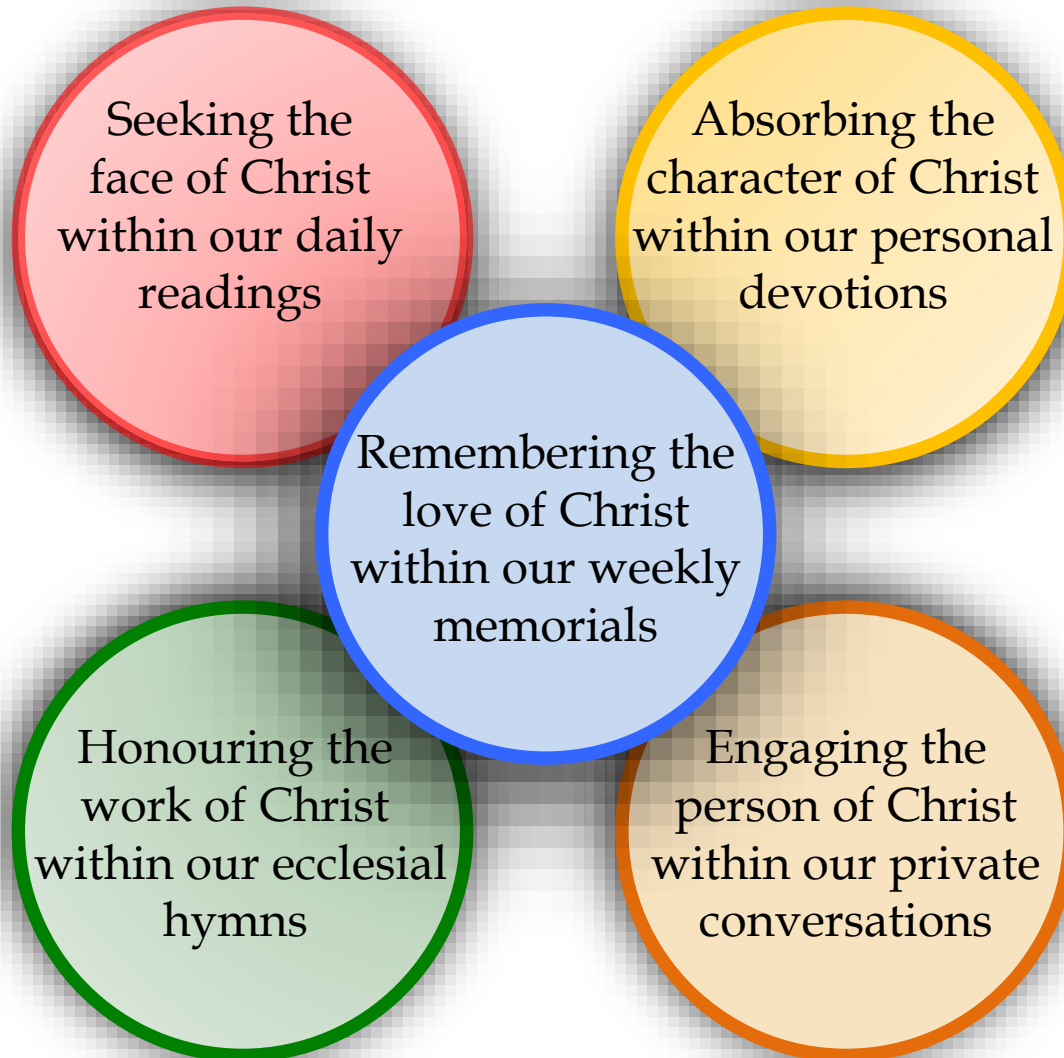
- **Acts 7:59-60** - “they stoned Stephen, calling and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he... cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge”.
- **Acts 9:10-17** - “the Lord said in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here Lord. And the Lord said Arise and go... the Lord Jesus... hath sent me”.
- **Acts 22:17-21** - “I was in a trance; and saw him saying unto me, Make haste... And I said, Lord, they know... And he said unto me, Depart I will send thee...hence”.
- **2 Corinthians 12:8-9** - “For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient unto thee”.

Private Conversation With Christ

- ❖ “The disciples knew the Lord was alive and working with them as they bore witness to his name. Rather than praying in the usually understood meaning of the word they were holding **private conversation** with him.
- ❖ “We too believe that Jesus is alive, and is at hand to comfort and to bless in time of need. He is not ashamed to call us brethren, and when we know him to be near, then it is difficult to see any scriptural obstacle to our **communing with him in private**. Public or corporate prayer in the ecclesia is by no means the same thing, as Scriptural precedent again shows”.

The Evangelical Revival, Page 60
Alfred Nicholls

Remembering The Love Of Christ



The Sacrifice Of The Bridegroom

- **Galatians 1:3-4** - “Jesus Christ who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us”.
- **Galatians 2:20** - “I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me”.
- **Ephesians 5:25** - “Even as Christ also loved the ecclesia, and gave himself for it”.
- **1 Timothy 2:5-6** - “the man Christ Jesus who gave himself a ransom for all”.
- **Titus 2:13-14** - “Jesus Christ who gave himself for us that he might redeem us”.