Growing with God

Not sure where to start in getting to know God deeper? Want to spend time with Him, but every time you try your mind wanders? Here is a list of ideas to help you get started in your alone time with Him. Find a quiet space, breathe in, breathe out, and rest. Breathe again, deeply, and still your body. Come to God from a place of expectancy. He will show up. No pressure. No rules. No regrets. No doubts. Just relationship. He wants to meet with you today. He wants to encounter you. He is here with you. Listen more than you speak.
"Be still and know that I am God." -Papa God

Simply Talk to God
Come to God on a very personal level. Tell Him what's bothering you, express your love for Him, and ask Him what moves His heart. When was the last time you just whispered to Him that you love Him?

Prayer List
Make prayer lists for different areas of your relationship with God and prayer requests that He puts on your heart- such as your calling, prophecies, prayer for your heart and your relationship with Jesus and also for other people or social issues. Use these lists as a jump-start for your time with Him and to hold on to things in prayer that are important to you.

Thanksgiving
"Come into His gates with thanks!" (Ps 100: 4) "God is the giver of all good things" (James 1:17). Thank Him for all the good things in your life! Become specific and remember in which situations He blessed you. You will be amazed at how much there is to say.

Intercession
Lift up friends, cities, and concerns that matter before God. Ask Him specifically what you can pray for and what God wants to release. Thus, intercession becomes an exciting time with God in which you get to know more of His heart. Share your impressions as encouragement to the person you were interceding for (for example by e-mail or text).

Prayer with Others
Join what God is doing in the prayer room. For example, sing along with the worship songs, gather in a group to pray for a specific topic when God calls you to, or meditate on the same Scripture as the worship leader.

Worship
Tune into the worship music in the room. Sing or meditate on the lyrics. Focus on God to whom you sing. You can, for example, enter the heavenly throne room in the Spirit (Revelation 4-5, Isaiah 6, Ezekiel 1, Daniel 7).

Praying in Tongues
"One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself" (1 Cor. 14: 4). By praying in tongues, you spiritually strengthen yourself for a life of love and holiness. Stay tuned for a period of time, so your focus is on God and your mind is in touch with Him. Make sure to use an adequate personal volume to honor other people in the room.

Ask God Questions
Take a paper and pencil, write down your question, ask God about them, and write down His answers. First, write down the question and listen to His answers. Write down everything that comes to your

mind. Later, reread it and test what is from the Lord. His words will always line up with the Truth of Scripture. You will experience that God speaks and enjoys revealing Himself to you. He promised, "My sheep hear my voice." (Jn 10:27)

Soaking Time
"Be still and know that I am God." (Ps 46:10) Sit back, close your eyes, listen inwardly, and feel the tender touch of Jesus. Let God become active and expect that He desires to meet you - even more than you desire to meet him.

Use Your Imagination
"I have set the Lord continually before me" (Ps 16:8) Imagine that Jesus is by your side. Talking to Him like a friend sitting next to you changes everything. The Bible speaks in many passages about the fact that we can perceive more than what our natural eyes see, and we have access to heavenly places: "eyes of your heart may be enlightened" (Eph 1:18), "seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph 2: 6), "you will see the heavens opened" (Jn 1:51). For example, let God show you His heavenly throne room (Rev 4-5, Isa 6, Ezek 1, Dan 7) - you will be amazed and fascinated by His beauty and glory.

Read Your Bible
You can use a Bible reading plan, read shorter books of the Bible one at a time, or read coherent chapters (several times over). Take notes and write down your impressions and thoughts. What is God speaking to you today through His Word?

Bible Meditation / Pray Read the Word
Take a short text, a verse, or just a part of verse and spend some time with it. Think about it and talk to God about it. With stories, you can empathize with the situation and become part of the events yourself. Ask God what it looks like, where you are, where it is, what's important to you right now, and so on. Thank God for the truth He reveals to you and ask Him to give you greater knowledge and revelation. Pray that the truth He shows you transforms your heart and pray for grace to walk out the things He asks of you. For systematically studying the Bible, books related to specific topics are helpful. You could use concordances, commentaries, theological dictionaries, articles on the Internet, etc. to help. Take notes.

Read Christian Books
Devotional books or books on specific topics of the kingdom of God can help to get to know God better and to grow in relationship to Him. Especially books that deal with God's character and nature are recommended.

Journaling
Keep a spiritual diary: What is God doing in your life? Where did He touch you? What does he say? Address your diary to God; write it like a letter to Him. Or write it down as a conversation in which you address Him and write down what He speaks to you.

Prophetic Art and Dance
Draw, paint, or sketch as the Lord speaks to you. Express through artistic movement what God is speaking over you.