



Give me grace at all times to rejoice in Thy mysterious companionship

This might well be the most powerful of all the petitions in Baillie's prayer. Of ultimate importance is the awareness that we live in God's presence at His invitation to be a companion. Companionship denotes closeness - emotional and spiritual closeness. It suggests communication and deep concern. Though we cannot fully understand how this divine/human connection can exist, we should be open and ready to enter into it, as mysterious as it is.

Many people find such a huge gap between themselves and God that the suggestion of something as intimate as companionship doesn't fit their perspective of how God relates to them. Alas, their vision is more of how they relate to God rather than how God relates to them.

The image of companionship suggests a vitally intimate two-way relationship which is powerful and compelling. What a treat to have God as a companion. Companions are ones with whom we have fun and good times. Companions are with us in times of joy and sorrow. Companions are present above all else. God is present in our lives at all times. There is nothing more valuable than God's constant and tenacious presence.