

Title: Friendship Closeness With Jesus (From the REVEAL Study)

December 26, 2019

Greetings all,

Just a quick note to send another answer to a seminar question. And a special Immanuel blessing for Christmas and the New Year: May you be more and more able to perceive the wonderful, living, loving, interactive, friendship presence of Jesus – abiding with you and walking beside you each day.

Dr. Lehman/Karl

Seminar question # 18. I have read several summaries of the Willow Creek REVEAL study, but have not been able to locate the data you mention regarding spiritual growth being more affected by relationship closeness with Jesus than by involvement in church related activities. Could you point me to where you found that data and conclusion?

I first learned about the REVEAL study from Greg Hawkins, the point person for the whole project, who presented about the study at a Life Model Works conference. The main point of his whole presentation was that spiritual growth was affected more by relationship closeness with Jesus than by involvement in church related activities. After hearing him at the conference, I got all of three of the books that he authored/co-authored about the project, and read each of them cover-to-cover twice. I have never actually read any *summaries* of the REVEAL study, but rather heard the presentation from Greg, and read the full-length books he authored about the study.

Also, if you look at the section on the REVEAL study in the chapter on Intimacy on the “Getting Started” page of the Immanuel Approach website (supplementary chapter 18b), I provide many references to specific pages in these three books regarding specific points that I make.

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