

Reflection on the first conversation from: “The Practice of the Presence of God and The Spiritual Maxims,” based on the 30-day devotional and Study Guide Questions.

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Day 2: First Half of 1<sup>st</sup> Conversation

1. What are ways God’s grandeur and sovereignty may have set Brother Lawrence loose from the ties of the world and created a great love for God?  
Through God’s subtle and loving compassion, he allowed Brother Lawrence to see past man’s ties to earthly treasures, so he was able to focus on his relationship with God. Brother Lawrence was able to take time to converse with God in a more meaningful and spiritual way. This brought him closer to God and a joy in knowing he was doing God’s will.
2. What are ways to establish habits of conversing constantly or frequently with God?  
One way to establish a habit of conversing frequently with God is to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. The LOH gives you eight opportunities, if you include the Invitatory, to pray to God throughout the day. Another way is to make a point of going to Adoration when it is offered. Finally, you can also set aside thirty minutes a day to read and reflect on a passage in the Bible.

Day 3: Second Half of 1<sup>st</sup> Conversation

1. What are important aspects of faith?  
One important aspect of faith is giving ourselves over to God’s will and knowing and trusting that our relationship with God should be all that matters. If we genuinely believe, then we should have no trouble with how God leads us, even in times of distress and suffering.
2. How can you resign yourself to God’s will?  
I think when we give everything up to God and let him have control of not only the good but the bad things as well, we are clearing the clutter away from our souls. This act allows us to become closer to God on a more meaningful and spiritual level. Also, when we receive the sacraments frequently we stay in communion with God.