

Dear Religious One,



Here you are Christmas Weekend. I'm pleased that you would make a special effort to include me in your holiday celebration. After all, it is my Son's birthday that's caused all the commotion. The fact that you are here to worship me with your voice, to remember my Son through communion, and to give to my work on earth thrills my heart. But I have to ask you, am I only worth honoring like this just once or twice a year? See, having a relationship with me is not like renewing your vehicle registration annually. I made you to interact with me daily.

Let me clarify something. A lot of people say they are religious or have a religion, but that doesn't excite me. I'm not about religion. People do all kinds of crazy, violent, hateful, manipulative and sometimes mindless things in the name of religion. I'm not as concerned with what's on the label as much as what's in the heart. Religion often becomes a wall instead of a bridge to me. You need to spend much more time with me to understand me. Why don't we make a commitment to meet together more often in 2006?

Read: Luke 10:27; Matthew 15:3-9; Colossians 2:20-23