

STATUS UPDATE:

“In a Relationship” with God



John Doe

-  Worked at [Pioneer Memorial Church](#)
-  Studied Theology at [Andrews University](#)
-  Lives in [Berrien Springs, Michigan](#)
-  In a Relationship with [God](#)

208 Mutual

Friends 710

Photos 185

About

BY MOISES RUIZ

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On Facebook, status updates are the big life reveal...well, sort of. They can range anywhere from the mundane - such as what's for dinner - to the very important - like when Dana Hana updated his status from “in a relationship” to “married” during the ceremony. Our timelines reflect the normal experiences of our everyday lives, dotted with the occasional milestone.

I think of an impromptu vacation my wife and I recently took. With two days warning, we drove to Florida to appease our inner children and go to Disney World. Now, I don't work for Disney, but it was a great adventure filled with magical highlights of the mouse-eared variety. As with every adventure that involves long hours in a car, there were also perfectly normal moments in this adventure:

mundane memories like looking through a windshield for 20-odd hours at the same scenic view that stops being scenic after 20 minutes, or eating at Taco Bell for the third time that day. I could go on, but you get the picture.

It's just the same when I look back at the status updates throughout my spiritual journey, especially in terms of personal devotions. There are milestone days when I open the Bible and find a true blessing, something that just speaks to me as though God is finishing our conversation from a prayer earlier in the day with a response right there in the pages. Other times, it happens when I read something that I've read a hundred times only to find that I see something new in the passage or in the story. These are the days when

I can leave my time with God and walk with my head high knowing I'm connected, knowing that things make sense. These days are a true spiritual highlight.

And then there are days when opening the Book reminds me of the laps my gym teacher would make us run before we could get to the fun stuff. On these days, I have spiritual dyslexia: the words are jumbled and don't make any sense. The passages and stories bear no resemblance to my life and have no answers to my burning questions. These are the days when I leave my time with God wondering if I did it right or not, a perfectly “normal” moment.

A deeply spiritual truth found on our computers is that a Facebook timeline not only

records the normal moments and the highlights, but also direction. At a glance, it reveals where you have been and where you're going. As in our spontaneous vacation, all the moments, mundane or magical, were always leading me in a direction, and that was what mattered. Whether heading to “the happiest place on Earth”, or home, the second happiest place on Earth-every moment mattered. Without the hours on the road, there would not have been any castles. And as I look again at my spiritual timeline, I can begin to see, if for only a moment, how daily devotions reveal my direction. I want my life to be the timeline of a person who is “in a relationship” with God moving toward the happiest place outside of this Earth. **e**