

Seeking the Lord Above All Else

Pastor Teri Downs – Seasons June 2013

Man is by nature a seeker.

God has placed it in the heart of every person to have questions, longings and hungers that tirelessly seek answers, satisfaction and fulfillment. And because we are created in the image of our Creator, the ONLY lasting, ultimate fulfillment for us is to KNOW and BE KNOWN by Him.

A healthy covenantal relationship must be founded on mutual love, truth, principles, goals and values. When the Lord God offers us covenant living through His Son, Jesus Christ, He avails to us HIS love, truth, commandments, the purposes of His life in us, and the values of His household. This is not a static one-time delivery of information to which we easily align our lives, but a living, dynamic flow of His character and even the secrets of His heart to those who DILIGENTLY pursue Him.

From time to time, we are prone to seek substitutes for the longings of our souls and the needs of our daily lives. No one is exempt from these meanderings... we have all sought satisfaction and pleasure, provision and peace from many other sources. But we learn (or it is hoped by all of Heaven that we learn) that the Lord is higher, greater, better than all others! We may WANT many things, but we NEED One Thing, and that is HIS PRESENCE.

IMPORTANT: Awareness and apprehension of the constancy of the Lord's manifested presence must not be a pre-assumed given for the disciple of Jesus. As true sons and daughters of the Most High, we are commanded to actively, intentionally seek the Lord, to nurture our most sacred relationship, with Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

If you had a child or spouse or a friend who only remembered your name and address when they wanted something from you, would that be a healthy relationship? How much more so, the vital importance of seeking the Lord's heart and face to simply love and commune with Him, above all the things we ask of Him! While He is moved with pity and compassion upon those who cry out to Him for deliverance, healing and provision, He is moved to unfathomable depths of intimacy and manifestations of His glory to those who, having set all else aside, will purpose in their hearts to SEEK HIM. While God is by His very Self complete and needing nothing, He has chosen to offer His fellowship and communion to those who absolutely refuse to be satisfied by anything less.

Biblical definitions of SEEK: follow, pursue, search, ask, worship, care for, inquire, ask, require, diligently look for, strive after, beseech, desire, painstakingly look for, seek early on, crave, demand, investigate, seek carefully

Every definition in the Bible of the word SEEK when referring to the Lord indicates that this is TOP PRIORITY.

Deuteronomy 4:29

But if from there you **seek the LORD your God**, you will find Him if you look for Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

1 Chronicles 16:10, 11

Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who **seek the LORD** rejoice. Look to the LORD and His strength; **seek His face** always.

1 Chronicles 28:9

"And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve Him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you **seek Him**, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever."

2 Chronicles 7:14

If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and **seek My face** and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Psalm 9:10

Those who know Your name will trust in You, for You, LORD, have never forsaken those who **seek You**.

Psalm 14:2

The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who **seek God**.

Psalm 24:5-6

⁵ He will receive blessing from the LORD
and vindication from God his Savior.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who **seek Him**,
who **seek Your face**, O God of Jacob. Selah

Psalm 27:4

One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I **seek**: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to **seek Him** in His temple.

Psalm 27:8

My heart says of you, "**Seek His face!**" Your face, LORD, I will **seek**.

Psalm 34:10

The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who **seek the LORD** lack no good thing.

Psalm 53:2

God looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who **seek God**.

Psalm 63:1

[A psalm of David, when he was in the Desert of Judah.] O God, You are my God, earnestly I **seek You**; my soul thirsts for You, my body longs for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Psalm 119:2

Blessed are they who keep His statutes and **seek Him** with all their heart.

Psalm 119:10

I **seek You** with all my heart; do not let me stray from Your commands.

Proverbs 8:17

I love those who love Me, and those who **seek Me** find Me.

Isaiah 55:6

Seek the LORD while He may be found; call on Him while He is near.

Jeremiah 29:13

You will **seek Me** and find Me when you **seek Me** with all your heart.

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly **seek Him**.