



Part 7: Intensifying Pleasure – Prayer!

John 16:23-24

1. Why is it critical to understand that our passion to maximize our pleasure and God’s passion for the fullness of His glory are one and the same?” _____

 - a. Read **Deuteronomy 28:47-48**. What seems shocking about God punishing people for not being happy – in Him? Why is this right for God to do? _____

 - b. God commands you to experience continual happiness – in Him (**Phil. 4:4**). How will **Luke 18:27** replace discouragement with excitement when you believe it? _____

2. Read **John 16:23-24**. What does it mean to pray in the “name of Jesus”? Consider **Acts 4:12** and **1 Timothy 2:5-6**. _____

 - a. Must we verbalize “in the name of Jesus” (“in Jesus’ name”) every time we pray? Why? _____

 - b. Why might I benefit by saying “in the name of Jesus” when I pray? _____

 - c. How can saying, or repeating the phrase “in Jesus’ name” turn your prayers into a form of witchcraft? Why must we be careful to not judge others on this point? _____

3. What motive for prayer does Jesus appeal to in **John 16:24**? I.e. – What should be your goal in praying? _____

 - a. How does this relate to God’s command in **1 Corinthians 10:31**? _____

 - b. What motive do you tend to have for prayer? Why? _____

 - c. How will *remaining focused* on what Jesus promises in **John 16:24** grow your prayer life? _____

4. What do the following verse teach about the *giving*-nature of God?
 - a. **Isaiah 55:1** – _____

b. **Psalm 23:5** – _____

c. **Acts 17:24-25** – _____

d. **Romans 11:35-36** – _____

e. **Philippians 2:13** – _____

f. **Luke 12:32** – _____

5. Why is believing in God's heart to *give* critical for your prayer life? _____

a. Read **John 15:5**. Why is seeing how utterly *needy* you are essential for your prayer life?

6. What are prayers of lament? Where are most of them in the Bible? _____

a. Why are laments critical for intensifying our joy at times? _____

b. What is something you might need to lament over in prayer today? _____

7. What examples for prayer do we see in **Psalm 55:17** and **Daniel 6:10**? _____

a. Why are "plans" put in place for prayer critical to growing in prayer? _____

b. What have you been planning for *daily* prayer? _____

c. Have you had additional plans for prayer weekly, monthly, annually? What? _____

d. What plans will you put in place to intensify pleasure in your life and throughout the world by prayer? _____

