

What is Your Greatest Desire?

Fuel Your Faith 3

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What are the deepest longings of your heart? If you were to define your purpose for living, what would it be? How does your relationship with God sustain you in everyday service and obedience?

Today on Fuel Your Faith we'll look at two passages from the Psalms that show us how our deep yearning for God moves us to follow through with heartfelt action ... for Him and for others.

Now it is important to realize both psalms are written in times of distress. Moments like these can heighten our realization of our deep need for God ... as we are brought to remembrance of how He is the true source of genuine comfort and peace. Let's read a portion out of [Psalm 42](#) and as we do, there are a couple expressions we should really listen for.

- [Psalm 42.1-2](#) says: As a deer longs for flowing streams, **so I long for you, God. I thirst for God, the living God.** When can I come and appear before God?

As you listened to those verses did you capture in your mind the greatest desire of the Psalmist? He said he longed for God and thirsted for Him. Despite difficult circumstances on every side, the Psalmist kept his eyes focused firmly on God. As we are thinking this week about the importance of our service to God and others ... walking with the Spirit ... all of it hinges on our deep desire to know God. There really is nothing more important.

In the New Testament Paul wrote: *I also consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them as dung, so that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ—the righteousness from God based on faith,* [Philippians 3.8-9](#). After reading this we may properly conclude that the deepest longing of Paul's heart was to know God. To be with Him. To be completely in step with God's wishes and plan for him.

This is our challenge. Can we truly say it is our deep longing to do whatever it takes and be whoever we need to be to know God? Is it our supreme desire to bring our life in sync to His wishes ... whatever those may be?

Now you may be asking how can I get there?

Maybe you would think the first answer might be to study more. To read the Bible. Someone might suggest that we go to church ... or pray ... or just do something, an act of service to others in the church. While those are all good things, I think they start too low. These are vital things, in fact essential things, but they will never be what they were meant to be if we don't first start with focusing on God's greatest desire ... i.e. a relationship with us.

- [Psalm 143.5](#) says: **I remember the days of old; I meditate on all you have done; I reflect on the work of your hands.**

Now again, this psalm is written during a time of distress, but what helped the writer regain his focus? What steadied him as the winds of life blew hard against him? It was his remembrance of all of God's interaction with him through his life. If I want to deepen my desire for God it starts with my reflection upon Him and His work in my life. When you see it, it has a way of melting your heart ... and causing you to want to know him more and more. God is always the proper focus ... which will naturally lead to the correct response.

It is always a good time to pause and reflect on all that God has done for you and reflect on the work of His hands. If you look for it, you will quickly see that He has been amazingly good to you, despite your failings and setbacks and despite life happening and presenting things outside your control. He is always near. He is always looking to cause the blessings in your life to overflow.

When you see His great love, you'll feel that love in return. And from that love will flow your desire to bring Him glory ... by the way you live, by the way you serve others, and by the way you testify about His great love.

Thank you for listening to Fuel Your Faith. Join us tomorrow as once again we talk about love being the motivation for all we do for the Lord.