

Seek Him

By Dr. Marlon Gayle

Summary: Everyone in the world gives their time and energy to pursue something. When we are born, we seek to eat, walk, and talk. We come out of the womb seeking affection, safety, shelter, food, relationship, attention, identity, security, and a sense of belonging. As we get older, we seek after education, careers, hobbies, entertainment, and recreation. We seek to obtain new experiences, challenges, and engaging interactions with others. Many people seek to travel and learn different opinions and beliefs from others. We seek opportunities to advance and places to use our talents, abilities, gifts, and skills. We seek to accomplish goals and fulfill our dreams. We seek a sense of purpose in life through our careers, positions, and qualifications. We seek after cars, clothes, houses, and various material possessions to fulfill our needs, desires, and wants. Many people seek to follow certain cultural and social norms, values, principles, and beliefs. With all the seeking going on in our lives, too often we can find ourselves as human beings, not making room and time to seek the most important person. God! There is a huge gap in understanding between God's thoughts and our thoughts. What our fallen human nature (the flesh) feels is needed and what God knows we need to accomplish His plan for our lives, is totally different. We need to seek God. This Bible study is dedicated to teaching about Seeking Him.

Scriptures: "10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. 12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. 14 And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive." **Jeremiah 29:10-14**

Questions: (1) Where should we seek God? (2) When should we seek God? (3) Why do we seek after God? (4) How do we seek after God? (5) If we don't seek after God, then what will happen?

Seeking God Principles and Examples:

- **Principles:**

1. **There is a limited amount of time to seek after God.**

"6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." **Isaiah 55:6-9**

2. **When we seek God's kingdom first, God will take care of us.**

"30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." **Matthew 6:30-33**

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• Examples

1. David was a man after God's own heart.

- "7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me and answer me. 8 When Thou saidst, "Seek ye My face," my heart said unto Thee, "Thy face, LORD, will I seek." **Psalm 27:7-9**
- "O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; 2 To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary." **Psalm 63:1-2**
- "3O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. 4I sought the LORD, and he 4 heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." **Psalm 34:3-4**

2. Paul was a man following after God.

- "7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.....12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." **Philippians 3:7-10, 12-14**

What are some benefits of seeking God

1. God will reward us if we seek him diligently.

- "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." **Hebrews 11:6**

2. God will forgive our sin and heal our land.

- "If my people, which are called by my name, shall 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." **2 Chronicles 7:14**

3. God will not forsake them that seek Him.

- "9 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. 10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee." **Psalm 9:9-10**

4. God will cause us to live.

- "For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live." **Amos 5:4**

5. God will bless us.

- "Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart." **Psalm 119:2**