

Desiring God

Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

A. Our goal is to know God more intimately through experiencing God. (Philippians 3:10-11, 8)

II. There are various examples of people who long to know God more intimately throughout scripture.

A. Moses asks God to teach him God's ways. (Exodus 33:12ff)

B. David desires to gaze on God's character. (Psalm 27:4; Isaiah 40:10-11)

C. The psalmist exemplifies that true godliness engages our affections, not just our reason. (Psalm 42:1ff)

D. David longs for God. (Psalm 63:1)

E. Isaiah yearns for God's renown and glory. (Isaiah 26:8-9)

F. God desires that we know Him and what He is like. (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

III. We have several strategies for developing this desire for intimacy with God.

A. Seek it earnestly in prayer. (Psalm 27:1)

B. We should give ourselves to pursue knowing God through concerted effort by reading the Bible (which portrays who He is).

C. We should continue to seek the Lord- that is, it should be our habit.

D. An intimate knowledge of God will draw out our deepest longings.

E. God has created for the purpose of knowing Him and our souls will not find rest until we do.

Application questions:

1. When you consider your walk with God, is it predominantly characterized by a desire to serve God or a desire to know Him?

2. Challenge yourself to memorize some of the passages from the Old Testament used in this teaching and to pray them on a regular basis.

3. When you look at your lifestyle and your daily schedule, how can you arrange them to allow you to make pursuing God a habit? What helps you form a habit? How can you be intentional about pursuing God intimately on a regular basis?
