

Seeking the Face of the Lord

What does it mean to seek the Lord?

1. To seek His Presence
2. To seek His fellowship
3. To seek His favor in your life

“Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD. Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.” (1 Chron. 16:8-11)

Why do we need to seek the Lord?

God has ordered the universe and His Kingdom in such a way that we cannot obtain the fullness of His Presence and His blessing without seeking Him. This keeps us humble and keeps us relying on Him. Hebrews 11:6 says,

“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.” (Heb. 11:6)

God has a general level of blessing for us: everything from A to P! But if you want to experience the full range of blessing from A to Z, you must seek the Lord.

“The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.” (Ps. 34:10)

Jesus categorized “seeking” as one of the “big three” categories of prayer, and yet it is the form of prayer perhaps the most ignored. Matthew 7:7 says,

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”

Failure to seek the Lord may weaken and ruin us:

“So king Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam was one and forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess. And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD.” (2 Chron. 12:13-14)

Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the LORD understand all things. (Prov. 28:5)

What happens when I seek the Lord?

1. We find His Presence, or, more accurately, He lets Himself be found by us:

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. (Jer. 29:13)

Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth. (Hos. 6:3)

2. We find healing and restoration in His Presence:

Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. (Hos. 10:12)

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 Chron. 7:14)

How do I seek the Lord?

1. Prepare your heart - check your deeds and motives:

Do you think that the Scripture says in vain, The spirit that dwells in us yearns to envy? But He gives more grace. Therefore He says, God resists the proud, but He gives grace to the humble. Therefore submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners; and purify your hearts, double-minded ones.” (James 4:5-8 MKJV)

2. Talk to him with honesty:

“Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.” (Ps. 25:1)

3. Determine that you will be one who will respond to His call to intimacy:

When thou saidst, “Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.” (Ps. 27:8)

4. Seek Him expectantly, for He will grant you His Presence:

I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right. (Isa. 45:19)

5. Cry out to Him looking for nothing but Him alone: study Psalm 27:4!

One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.