



Seeking The Lord

To seek the lord is to set the heart and mind on God continually.

Isaiah 55:6-7 KJV

[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.

What does it mean to seek the Lord?

1. Because we are separated from him through sin, we live under wrath.
2. God gives us over to our ways when we refuse to seek him.
3. The wages of sin is death.
4. We should desire to know God beyond just salvation.
5. When we cease to seek him, we start to make bad decisions and eventually walk away from God and defend into the destruction of our choices.

Proverbs 8:17 KJV

I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

Deuteronomy 4:29-31 KJV

[29] But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. [30] When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice; [31] (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.

Psalms 27:8

When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, O Lord, I shall seek."

What is required of us to seek God?

1. You will find God when you seek him with all your heart.
2. Anything we need to know can be found in scripture
3. Only wise decisions come from God
4. Diligently seek God and you will discover his will
5. We should be confident that God will reward us for earnestly seeking him.
6. We should come to him humbly recognizing we cannot exist without him.
7. We need to observe God in his workings; both the blessings he gives and his wrath towards the wicked.
8. There can come a time when God stops being available to us due to a hardened heart.

Would any area suffer if we placed more emphasis on praying than any other situation?

Do we understand how to pray

Seeking God through Prayer

What if we prayed more and did other things less? Jesus taught his disciples three principles to prayer.

Three Principles in Prayer:

1. **ASK - pray with expectancy.** Ask, and you will receive means you will always receive an answer to your request, sometimes the answer will be no, sometimes wait, sometimes yes. In each case, you have received. We confuse receive to mean we get our prayers answered, sometimes this will happen but often God has something different, better.

Luke 11:11-13 KJV

[11] If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? [12] Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? [13] If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Matthew 7:11 KJV

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

2. **SEEK - pray with effort.** Seeking means we should be seeking God in our prayer and desiring to know the will of God in our life and to obey the word of God in our circumstances. When we seek God first over our own desires and surrender to Jesus, we are in the will of God. When we ask God for things that we seek to use for our own desires instead of seeking God first, we miss the point entirely.
3. **KNOCK - pray with endurance.** Keep knocking. Shameless persistence shows God our desire and also teaches us perseverance. Don't give up. If the man will get up in the middle of the night to give the loaves of bread to the persistent neighbor, how much more will God give us the desires of our heart when we pray with endurance.

Luke 11:5-8 KJV

[5] And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; [6] For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? [7] And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. [8] I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.



Seeking God through Scripture

Throughout scripture we are encouraged to seek the Lord.

Luke 12:31 KJV

But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Psalms 63:1 KJV

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.

Psalms 119:2

How blessed are those who observe His testimonies, who seek Him with all their heart.

1 Chronicles 28:9 KJV

[9] And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

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