

Seeking God is Seeking His Face

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

The word seeks means to look for something specific; to search for one thing peculiar and no other preferences. To seek is to find one right answer and no other solution appropriate. People keep on seeking lot of things that they think are essential for them, like good reputation, wealth, job, good partner, best qualification and scientific progress. All mentioned are commendable but not essential. What should we need to seek for?

1. Seek the truth: The truth is this: God is the Creator of Heaven and earth and the Author of all things that people needs. Many people in this world they have already acquired big reputation but they fail to find and receive the truth that they need to know. A famous person is nothing compared to someone who is the Son of God. *“16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16 KJV)* Jesus came down from Heaven to save the people from sin and death. He died on the cross, was buried but raised from death on the third day to give eternal life to everyone who believes in Him. Jesus came to earth to destroy the works and the schemes of Satan who is the father of lies, by revealing the truth and the power of God. *“6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6 KJV)*

2. Seek the right way: There are many ways and influences in this world but the way of the Lord is the right way. People are trying to find a way to travel to different places to seek for a fortune or to live in a better land as many said, ‘a greener pasture’, but unfortunately they don’t know the way to Heaven, the place that is not only green but with golden and eternal city. There is only one way to reach Heaven. *“5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.” (I Timothy 2:5-6 KJV)* Jesus is the only mediator between God and all men. He is the way to Heaven, the place promised to all who believe and obey His will. Jesus recommends us to enter into the narrow or straight gate that leads to life and to avoid going through the wide gate that leads to destruction, *“13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Matthew 7:13-14 KJV)* You need to endeavor to enter through the straight gate, *“24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.” (Luke 13:24 KJV)*

3. Seek to live a life to the full: If you seek to live a life and live it to the full or in abundance, you need to receive Jesus in your heart as your personal Savior and accept Him as the Lord of your life. Jesus said, *“10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10 KJV)* Jesus is your assurance to have

a wonderful life, and it is only Jesus who can satisfy your needs. *“26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;” (Hebrews 7:26 KJV)*

To God belong everyone and everything. He is the Creator and the Giver that we should seek. We ought not only to seek the gift or our wants but to seek the Author and the Giver. Seeking God is a continuous and long process. A day and night pursuit until Jesus comes again and will take us with Him to Heaven.

4. Seek God to know His will through life of prayer: *“7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8 KJV)* When you go to a market to buy a thing, you already have certain criteria in mind. So you search and seek before you purchase. You spend time and effort. This may even cause you delay, and to spend not only time but money and effort also. You may not find what you want the first day and again you go the next day because you are seeking certain quality. * In the same manner, in your prayer life with God you need to seek the good quality of answered prayers. Putting in your mind those good things you will receive when you wait upon God to give you the best and the most suitable. * Yes, it requires patience, and this is how you need to train yourself while you are seeking His will. * As well as put in your mind that His will might not suit your desire, but for sure it is the best for you because He knows better than you. Therefore it is wise to accept what He is freely giving to you.

King David desired one thing: *“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.” (Psalm 27:4 KJV)* David when he was looking to live in the house of God not because he had no house to live, but because he wanted to be near to God, for he was seeking to live forever with God. King David was seeking eternity and this is what we also need to seek. After we receive Jesus in our hearts, we need to seek and know Him more. We need to always obey and follow Him. We must seek His Word and His example and His direction – the truth, the way and the life – in order for us not to be apart from Him. More so when we are serving God, we need to seek Him to be corrected, to be instructed and to be warned.

Seeking God needs earnest desire for Him, *“1 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;” (Psalm 63:1 KJV)* * Seeking God requires faith and high degree of discipline, obedience, honesty and willingness to follow all God’s decrees and commands. * Seeking God is not difficult instead it makes your life easier. When you seek God you are kept on the right track of life. * Seeking God does not rob you but will continually bless you. When you seek God you lose nothing but you will receive reward.

Seeking God is to know really who God is and to know His will into your life through studying His Word. The Lord Jesus Christ said to His disciples, *“31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall*

make you free.” (1 John 8: 31-32 KJV) Holding to the teaching of the Lord Jesus is not only to know the truth but you have to live in this truth. Therefore your willingness to live in the truth is the most important part. If you are not willing to practice and live according to the Word of God then knowing the truth it become only a mere knowledge but you will not be set free unless you hold firmly to it.

God will not reveal to you the truth unless you are humble and take the initiative to seek Him as His Word declares, **“9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.” (Psalm 25:9 KJV)** Unless you humble yourself and come to God and start confessing your sin to Him, God will not teach you His way that leads to abundant life.

Seeking God is the duty of man. God did His part, He sent His Son Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost but man still not aware of what God had done to him. Jesus came from Heaven, He died on the cross for our sins. He was buried but rose from the dead on third day to give eternal life to those who believe in Him and follow His steps.

Seeking God is repentance from all your sins, therefore, **“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.” (Isaiah 55:6-7 KJV)** As long as it is called today you still have the opportunity to repent of your sins and start to seek God. Do that while you are alright. Don't wait for trouble or for God's wrath to come then you will start to seek His face.

Seeking God is seeking God's face. David wrote the following: **“8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.” (Psalm 27:8 KJV)** When we speak to anyone we look at the face to see the facial expression and to pick up what is in the person's heart and mind. * Seeking God is to seek His face and to know His will in your life. * Some people when they seek God they don't seek His face but they will seek His hand in order to get the blessings. But they are not willing to obey His Word. Such kind of people they obey as long as there are material blessings coming into their lives. But they are not willing to go further with Him. Or they come to Him and seek His help while they are in trouble but once they are relieved they run away.

Seeking the face of God can include the following:

A. Is to look carefully watching God's face to see His reaction to you in what you are doing and saying, that you want to keep Him happy, with smiling face, that shows He is pleased with you as He is watching your life and how you conduct yourself in this world.

B. That you are ready to repent, turn from sins, and amend your ways if you notice that God's face became sad toward you because of your wrong doings or taking wrong step or do wrong action that God is not pleased with.

C. That you are no more concern of what material things you are receiving from God as long as God is happy with you.

King David asked one thing of the Lord, **“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.” (Psalm 27:4 KJV)** * The meaning for that to dwell in the house of God is that David wanted to be near God. Seeking God and doing exactly what He said in His Word will bring you near God. And to be near God is to be protected, and to be near God is to be well provided. * Those who are not seeking God, not only they displease God and no place for them in eternally, but they are in constant danger and threats; they are unprotected. * David wanted to dwell in the house of the Lord to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him and to inquire of Him in His temple, and to look into the expression of His face and watch if He is pleased with him or not. * Seeking God and obeying His Words is something beautiful because it will bring you into that abundant life that Jesus had promised to those who obey Him.

We need to be in a deep relationship with God with all our emotions, thoughts and devotions for Him alone; to know what is in God's heart for us, His good and perfect plan. The Lord God said, **“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.” (Jeremiah 29:11-13 KJV)** How could we accomplish the good plans and receive the perfect future that God has for us if we do not call upon God and diligently seek His face? To diligently seek God is not only to come and pray to Him. To seek God wholeheartedly is to listen, to obey and to follow His Word, the written Word – the Bible and the living Word – Jesus.

God had for each man good plans that give future, hope and prosperity. But these plans will not come true and you will not enjoy them unless you start to seek God with all your heart. God will give His secrets to those who fear Him; to those who are willing to obey His commands, **“The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant.” (Psalm 25:14 KJV)**

When you see a little child of few years age you are easily able to recognize his parents because he will be having the same expressions of their faces because he has the same of their genes. In the same way when you accept Jesus as Savior and Lord in your life He accepts you as His child. So to be a child of God you should have the same characteristics of God and His Son Jesus Christ. So when you seek God and His Word, and obey what it says you will start to carry the characters of God and His Son Jesus and you will be truly called Christian.

My Dear and Beloved: **“22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.” (James 1:22-25 KJV)** Those who draw faces, they will sit in front of the person and look to his face to draw exactly the more details of his face so the drawing would be exactly as the face of the person. * In the same way to seek God is to seek His face, to seek more details of His face so you can know clearly and such

knowing would come when you know His Word and you do them, practicing them, so that your life would be clearly showing God, and Christ demonstrated in your life and daily living. * You need to look intently into each and every Word of God and continue to do what His Word says and in such God shall be revealed clearly in your life, and people shall see Him in your life and in such you will be achieving God's purpose for you in your life in seeking His face.

Let us pray

My Prayer: *Father God, I come before You in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins, and rose again from death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that increased my faith and trust in you and had taught me how to seek you with all my heart. Lord thank you for all the material and spiritual blessings that you gave to me and bestow over my life. Lord thank you for all the teaching, the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.*

Now repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce your pride, and your lack of humility. Repent of your wrong motives in seeking God, that you are seeking His hand and what He will give to you and not to seek His face to please Him. Repent of your lack of faith and your lack of full trust on God and on His Word. Repent of your lack of fear of God, and living and doing your own ways, your own will and plans. Repent of your worldliness and your yoke with non believers and many friends. Repent of your lust, immoralities, and the rest of the works of the flesh. Repent of your selfishness, your lack of commitment and non willingness to give to God your time, your effort and your material things. Repent of being bad example to others. Repent of your lack of patience and self-control. Repent from your non willingness to persevere while persecuted and suffer for Christ. Repent of your non willingness to reach the lost souls to bring them to Christ. Repent from wasting your time and spoiling your mind with the Media, News and games. Repent of your lack of reading God's Word in the Bible and studying the Scripture, and your lack of prayer. Lord I repent from the following sins _____.

Lord from this day on I set my heart to seek your face and to look intently into your Word and obey what it says. Lord I commit myself to leave my plans and my will and I am willing to do your will and your plan in my life. Lord I am seeking your face to live my life to please you. O lord, my God, I earnestly seek you. Teach me your Word and your ways. Step by step you lead me and help me to follow your ways and do your will. Thank you, Lord. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins and committed themselves to seek your face and not your hand, and to live according to your Word and to your will to them in their lives. Lord help them in their lives and step by step lead them as they are seeking your face to please you. Lord uphold them with your love and grace that they will do your will and accomplish your purpose in their lives. Lord set them good example to others to follow you. Lord do miracles and wonders in their lives and uphold them with victories so people will know that you are the true God and they are your servants.

Lord we pray for us as a church that we will continue to serve you, seeking your face and doing the things that are pleasant to you, and committing ourselves to use all the resources you gave us for that purpose. Lord protect us, our families, workers and ministers from all the temptations of the devil and its demons; we come against all the works of the devil and cast it out from our lives in the name of Jesus. Lord we commit ourselves to walk before you in humility, and in holiness in accordance to your will and plan for us. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit, and lead us and enable us to reach new people, making new disciples and training new workers, and to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized, and receives the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord bless and increase all our ministries, and prepare us for your coming that we will go with you when you come to take us. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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