

Speaker: Associate Pastor Richard Yun

Title: Pursuing God

1. PASSION FOR SEEKING & PURSUING GOD

- The Old Testament and New Testament words for "seek" mean: to seek the face of God; to **desire** ; to examine or explore ; to seek **earnestly** ; to **diligently** search for ; to wish for ; to **crave** ; to investigate ; to **pursue**.
- Only God can touch our hearts and give us the desire to seek and to know Him, and to want His will & plans & ways above our own:

"I will give them a heart to **know me.**" - **Jeremiah 24:7**

" O Lord, God of our fathers, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you. And give my son Solomon the wholehearted devotion to keep your commands, requirements, and decrees..." - **I Chronicles 29:18-19**

"For it is God who works in you to will and act according to His good purpose." - **Phil. 2:13**

- Intimacy with God and the fullest possible **fellowship** and **partnership** with Him comes as you **desire** and **seek** to know Him & His plans and will and His ways.

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. (**Psalm 42:1-2**)

2. DRAWING NEAR & ENTERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

"The people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick darkness where God was." – Exodus 20:21

- We do not need to fear entering the presence of God even if it means entering through a period of darkness. Above all else we must believe that God is a God of love.

3. HEARING AND OBEYING GOD'S VOICE

Hearing God's voice (**seeking Him**, and seeking His guidance and vision) is the most important part of relationship with God.

- IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO KNOW HIM AND HIS WILL & **HIS CALLING FOR YOUR LIFE**, & TO BE CLOSE AND ONE WITH HIM:

- - " **BE STILL, AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD**". - **PSALM 46:10**

- " WHETHER YOU TURN TO THE RIGHT OR TO THE LEFT, YOUR EARS WILL HEAR A VOICE BEHIND YOU, SAYING "THIS IS THE WAY; WALK IN IT."

- **ISAIAH 30:21**

- The Biblical word for **listen** means: to **reverently** and **attentively** listen, with the **intent to follow or obey**
- YOU CANNOT BE A TRUE DISCIPLE (LEARNER AND FOLLOWER) OF JESUS UNLESS YOU LEARN TO HEAR HIS VOICE & FOLLOW AND OBEY HIM:

- " MY SHEEP FOLLOW ME BECAUSE THEY KNOW MY VOICE... MY SHEEP LISTEN TO MY VOICE; I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW ME."

- **JOHN 10:4,27**

- Martha and Mary (LUKE 10:38-42)

(don't be too busy that you don't have time to get to know Jesus and hear His voice)

- **WHY SHOULD WE LISTEN TO GOD & OBEY/FOLLOW HIM?**

- "I AM THE **WAY**, THE **TRUTH**, AND THE **LIFE**..." - **JOHN 14:6**

If you want to know the best way through life, if you want to know truth, if you want the abundant life Jesus promised, then you must seek & follow Jesus

- "MY SON, PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT I SAY; LISTEN CLOSELY TO MY WORDS. DO NOT LET THEM OUT OF YOUR SIGHT, KEEP THEM WITHIN YOUR HEART; FOR THEY ARE **LIFE** TO THOSE WHO FIND THEM AND **HEALTH** TO A MAN'S WHOLE BODY." - **PROVERBS 4:20-22**

- "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND **OBEY IT**." - **LUKE 11:28**

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DON'T SEEK GOD AND LISTEN & OBEY HIM?

ISAIAH 64:6-7

JEREMIAH 32:32-35

PSALM 81:8-16

(Getting our own way is not what is best)

CONCLUSION

- WHEN GOD IS OUR "**TREASURE**" AND OUR "**FIRST LOVE**", AND WE WANT A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM **MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE** WE WILL HEAR GOD

ALWAYS

- **MATTHEW 6:21,33** - **PHIL. 3:7-10** - **REVELATION 2:1-4** ("FIRST LOVE")

- OUR HEART ATTITUDE SHOULD ALWAYS BE:
" SPEAK LORD, FOR YOUR SERVANT IS **LISTENING.**" (1 **SAMUEL 3:9**)