

THE MINUTE MESSENGER

August 5, 2008 Volume 44, Number 32

DEVELOPING INTIMACY WITH GOD

Sixth Key

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, Then I said, "Here I am, I have come—it is written about me in the scroll. I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." Ps 40:6

Last week I said the fifth key to developing intimacy with God is to **cherish what God cherishes**. The more you cherish what God cherishes, the more you will become God's friend. God holds very near and dear to his heart the sacrificial death of his one and only son who died on the cross. God also cherishes those who are lost. The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost, **Luke 19:10**. I want to share with you the sixth key to developing intimacy with God.

Learn to desire what God desires.

Desire means to wish for, to long for, or to crave something. Years ago, I was stranded in the Arizona desert with temperatures that soared above 100 degrees. I remember walking for miles and miles without any water. I felt a real panging thirst for the first time in my life. I remember stumbling upon a commercial sprinkler that was watering a business landscape. I almost started to drink from it until I read the sign which said, "Danger, water is contaminated, not for human consumption." God wants all of us to have the same desire or thirst for him as he does for us. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, **John 3:16**. Listen to King David describe his thirst for God. He says, 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. When can I go and meet with God? **Ps. 42:1-2**. King David asks, whom have I in heaven but you? And **earth** has nothing I *desire* besides you, **Ps. 73:25**. David drank from many of the worlds broken cisterns in his earlier years, but he had come to realize that only God can truly satisfy his desires. In order for us to draw closer to God he wants us to desire what he desires. What does God desire from us? Let me leave you with three things.

1. **Fear Him.** He fulfills the **desires** of those who **fear him**, **Ps. 145:19**. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart, **Ps. 37:4**.
2. **Forsake the things of the world.** Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—come not from the Father, but from the world. The world and its **desires pass away**, but the man who does the will of God lives forever, **I John 2:16**.
3. **Forgive Others.** For I **desire mercy**, not sacrifice, **Hos. 6:6**. For if you forgive men when they have sinned against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins, **Matt. 6:14**.

I want to challenge you this week to **desire** what God **desires**.

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The **difference...**
Is **CHRIST** in me!
Colossians 1:27

We are looking for others
who will...
Become Part of the Family

COMING UP

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|---------|------------------------------|
| Aug. 5 | Ladies Bible Class @ 7:00 pm |
| Aug. 8 | Watson-Wyszynski Wedding |
| Aug. 9 | Back To School Bash |
| Aug. 10 | J. W. Hamby's Life Group |
| Aug. 12 | Ladies' Bible Class |
| Aug. 19 | Ladies' Bible Class |
| Aug. 20 | Wed. Evening Meal Meeting |
| Aug. 22 | Hilltoppers Ice Cream Supper |
| Aug. 29 | Ladies' Bible Class |
| Aug. 27 | VBS Hot Dog Supper |