

Hungering and Thirsting After God

Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Psalm 42:1-2.

B. What is our heart's desire? One Christian psychologist states that everyone is searching after significance and security.

C. Even our best spiritual desires and pursuits do not satisfy the deepest longings of the human heart. The whole world is too small to fill the human heart- only God can. (John 4:13; John 7; Psalm 27:4; Philippians 3:7-10)

II. God wants us to know Him in a personal and intimate sort of way.

A. This begins with accepting Christ as your Savior.

B. Knowing God is more than knowing about God, praying to God or witnessing about Him.

C. Knowing God involves knowing Him as a person. He desires fellowship with us. (Genesis 1; 1 John 1:3; 1 Corinthians 1:9)

1. Our sin broke fellowship with God.

2. God sent Jesus to redeem us and restore our fellowship with Him. (Revelation 3:20)

III. To hunger and thirst after God means to deeply desire intimate fellowship with Him.

A. Only God can create this hunger for Him in our hearts. Pray that God would create a desire for Him in your heart.

B. Study the Bible and memorize scripture as if it is God speaking to you, because it is. Respond to the scripture in prayer as you read it. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

C. Spend time daily worshiping God for who He is. (Revelation 4, 5)

1. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable in His being in wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth. (Westminster Catechism)

2. Take time to focus on God's different attributes and worship Him for them.

D. We must seek Him diligently with all of our being. (Psalm 63:1, 5)

E. Jesus promises to reveal Himself to those who obey Him. We must obey Him in order to know Him and ask forgiveness immediately when we've been disobedient. Jesus really will reveal His innermost heart to us. (John 14:21)

Application questions:

1. What does your heart long for? How can you develop a longing for God?

2. What does it mean to know God in a personal and intimate way?

3. How does it feel to know that God deeply desires to share His innermost thoughts with you?
