



Finding Our Greatest Pleasure in God

Psalms of Summer: A Heart for God

Psalms 16:11, 19:10, 34:8, 36:7-8, 37:4, 43:4 | July 5th - July 11th, 2015

Warm Up: What kinds of things come to mind when you consider the word, “pleasure”? The Scriptures invite us to find our joy, satisfaction, and *pleasure* in the living God. Is this something you think often about? Why or why not? In what ways does this challenge you?

- ❖ Begin your time by reading the following verses aloud: **Psalm 16:11, 19:10, 34:8, 36:7-8, 37:4, 43:4**. Discovering that our supreme satisfaction exists in relationship with the living God is so vital because we will keep pursuing lesser pleasures until we find our greatest pleasure in Him alone.
 - As you read and listen to these verses, which hit home for you most? Why?
- ❖ There seems to be a lack of contentment in our society today. Many Christians do not find their joy in God because they have not learned to live lives of contentment. They restlessly search for peace, and deep down really don’t trust or believe they can be satisfied with God alone.
 - Read **Philippians 4:11-13** aloud. Why is contentment so important if we are to experience pleasure and joy in the Lord?
- ❖ If a husband gives his wife an anniversary gift out of duty...or worse, out of begrudging obligation, what does that say about their relationship? If we are not being intentional to “**delight ourselves in the Lord**” (Psalm 37:4) we can fall into a similar trap when relating with God. It all becomes duty and obligation rather than delight and pleasure.
 - What practices personally help you experience great pleasure in our good and gracious God? (Learn from each other!)
 - Why is it significant that we all experience joy in the Lord in different ways?
- ❖ On Sunday you were encouraged to write a Psalm to the Lord. Has anyone in the group done this? What was it like? If not, could you commit to writing a Psalm this week where you truly express the deepest longings, joys, or anxieties of your heart?

Wrap Up: Jesus tells us, “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and **from joy over it** he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” - Matt. 13:44 NASB (emphasis added). Jesus is the man and we are His treasure. How can we respond to such love? – By finding our greatest pleasure in Him!