

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

No Other Like Jesus, Better Is One Day, Lord I Need You, I Surrender All

WELCOME

What do you consider to be the most precious thing in your life at this very moment? How differently do you treat this precious thing compared to the rest of what you have?

WORD

PSALM 27:1-4

¹ *The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?*² *When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.*³ *Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident.*⁴ *One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: 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 meditate in His temple.*

Read the entire Psalm 27.

We learned last week about Mary of Bethany's one thing — **to sit at the feet of Jesus.**

Sometimes, preoccupation with the mundane things of our daily life cause us to neglect the most important thing. What's worst, for most of us, we don't even know what that "one most important thing" is! What is it that you love the most and live for each day of your life? For some, it's about achievements. For others, it's earning a specific amount of money. However, we all know that at the end of our lives, we cannot bring anything with us; we die and leave everything behind.

Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe once said that, "things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things which matter least". With all the achievements of David the author of **Psalm 27** and Israel's greatest king and a mighty warrior, it might seem a surprise that his one thing was not the riches or glory that he achieved. In **Acts 13:22**, God described him as "**a man after My own heart**", showing how God was pleased with David. Though His chosen king sinned greatly in adultery and murder, it was David's INTIMACY WITH GOD throughout David's lifetime that was most crucial and most important. The king's sincere repentance and proper response to the painful consequences of his sins showed that he loved God above all.

So how do you SEEK INTIMACY with God like David did?

1. DAVID'S ONE THING

Psalm 27:4 tells us David's ONE THING—to seek the **Presence of God.** For David, intimacy with God was crucial; thus, when he sinned, he missed intimacy with God, and he grieved for it. His grieving brought him to repentance! **Jeremiah 29:13** reminds us of a promise that if we seek God with all of our hearts, He promised that He will be found. God desires for us to be intimate with Him!

To seek God is to want to know God more and more. Look at how David began **Psalm 27:1-3** — he called God **his light,**

salvation, and **his defense.** Intimacy with God means you have learned to see things from God's perspective. David understood that intimacy with God doesn't mean the absence of your problems — rather, it is seeing God amid life's challenges. As a result, you will have peace and confidence even as you are going through tough times.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 describes many of us today who are blind and cannot see with our spiritual eyes. As we seek intimacy with God, we will learn to appreciate things around us and not be primarily focused on our problems. We will glorify Him for the beauty and magnificence of His works, in creation and in our lives!

When we yearn for intimacy with God, we learn to give things up for the sake of being closer to Him – our favorite sins, our idols in life – we disregard their value in exchange for the greater and eternal value of knowing God. David said in **Psalm 34:8**, we should taste and see that the Lord is good, and once we do, we will yearn for more of Him in our lives!

2. WORSHIP

As you know God more and more, you will be able to focus on greater things rather than the mundane. As you see His power and His sovereign control over all that takes place in this world, your response will be to worship Him for who He truly is. The expression of intimacy with GOD is achieved in WORSHIP. As you have read in **Psalm 27:4**, David yearned to **DWELL, BEHOLD, and MEDITATE** on God's presence.

The way you worship God is very telling of your perspective and your knowledge of who He is. Do you desire to **DWELL** in His presence? If there is no desire, then perhaps you do not really know Jesus yet! William Temple gives a helpful description of what worship is:

Worship is quickening the conscience by the holiness of God, feeding the mind with the truth of God, purging the imagination by the beauty of God, opening the heart to the love of God, and devoting the will to the purpose of God.

WORD (cont'd)

Intimacy with God increases your appreciation of Jesus as your Savior and Lord (**John 17:3**). This is eternal life, that you desire to KNOW Him! Your sins are forgiven and paid for. People who are not intimate with God will not have assurance of salvation because they do not truly know Jesus.

To **BEHOLD** is a beautiful Hebrew word which means to “admire”. You gaze at the beauty of the Lord – look intently at His qualities – His goodness, His holiness, His mercy, His perfection. The beauty of God is truly something to behold because it will take eternity for us to fully discover the entirety of God’s beauty! TO **MEDITATE** is to seek Him, to inquire of Him and be ready to follow His commands.

3. LISTENING

How do we worship God and pursue greater intimacy with Him? In **John 12:3**, we learned that Mary worshipped Jesus by offering the best that she could—anointing Jesus with very expensive perfume. For David, he gave his best offerings for God’s temple! When you love somebody, you give your best in the things you do because that is your offering, your act of worship towards God who you

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **Self-Check.** How was your intimacy with God during the Prayer and Fasting Week? What will you continue doing to maintain or improve this?
2. **Setting It Right.** Maybe you have not desired to be intimate with God like David did. What do you think has affected your “appetite” for God?
3. **Living It Out.** What will you do differently this year so that you can focus more on the one thing — “to seek God’s presence”?

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Help others know how to seek God’s presence this year by introducing them to Jesus as you pray, care, share the gospel to them! Pray that more people will be able to “taste and see that the Lord is good” through the way you worship God in your life and words.

consider as most precious above all else. Worship Him with your very best! If your goal is intimacy with God, you can achieve this only through an established system such as:

- Meditating on His Word daily
- Letting your emotions be controlled by Him
- Making choices according to His standards
- The way you worship God on Sundays, attending corporate worship with other believers (**Psalm 111:11, 149:1**)
- Presenting your bodies as living sacrifices (**Romans 12:1**)
- The way you handle your time, talent, and even treasure (*David paid the full cost of offering the best to God* **1 Chronicles 29:1-2, 4**)

At the end of the day, what we worship controls us. That is why we are reminded to seek God first and foremost. We put God first, and sincerely surrender, trust, and wait on the LORD to come through for us in our impossible situations (**Psalm 27:14**).

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants
- A God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends