

THERE ARE ALSO SOME OTHER THINGS WE ARE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK.....

Seek to do the Fathers Will

John 5:30, NIV – *“By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.”*

Seek to Edify (serve) the Church

1 Corinthians 14:12, NIV – *“So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.”*

1 Corinthians 14:12, NASB – *“So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.”*

Seek the Lost

Luke 19:10, NIV – *“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”*

OUR ASSURANCE

Luke 11:9,10 NIV *“(9) So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. (10) For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”*

Just remember to seek the right things!

Seeking

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- Do you know what it is you are looking for right now?
- Are you consciously seeking, or are you on ‘auto pilot’ just cruising along and doing what comes ‘naturally’? Just being happy with what feels right for right now?
- Or, are you frustrated because what you crave and long for just isn’t there for you, no matter how hard you work on getting it?
- Right from the time we can play ‘Peek-a-Boo’ we learn to go after what we need and what we want.
- We are designed to be seekers.

SEEKING: AN INFORMAL DEFINITION

When I seek for something, I crave it, I will enquire after it because I feel a need for it, I require it, I may demand it, I will be careful and diligent to search it out, to investigate. I might even become obsessive ... and worship it.

Matthew 6:31-33, NIV – *“(31) So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ (32) For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. (33) But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

WE HAVE REAL NEEDS:

- Food, drink, clothes, shelter

AND SOME THAT MAY NOT BE AS OBVIOUS

(Taken from Pgs 49-50 Fearless Parenting)

- Attention
- Affection – held, touched
- Affiliation – belong to someone
- Approval – valued, accepted, contribute
- Authority – for personal safety and for ability
In the syllabus Dr. McIntosh adds a Sixth
- Anointing – empowerment by the Holy Spirit

Luke 12:29-31, NIV – “(29) *And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. (30) For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. (31) But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.*”

- Pagans (those ruled by the carnal nature) go after these things BUT OUR FATHER KNOWS WE NEED THEM.
- And we are told to seek something else first....

THE KINGDOM OF GOD.....

- What is Kingdom? A nut shell answer.

Romans 14:17, NIV – “*For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*”

- Righteousness – not Rules
 - Understanding who is our righteousness and who we are in Him
- Peace – not Striving
 - Resting in God, absence of strife, knowing that God reigns, knowing the King
- Joy in the Holy Spirit – not happiness
 - Comes through relationship, the presence of the Holy Spirit is ours to enjoy)

WE WILL FIND THE NEEDS WE HAVE MET WHEN WE SEEK TO KNOW:

- the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
- the love of God,
- and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV – “*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*”

HOW DO WE GO ABOUT ‘SEEKING’?

Psalm 26:2-3, NIV – “*Test me, O LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth.*”

- “Your love is ever before me”
- Get the right image
- What do you keep before your eyes?

1. Ask for Help! – Test me, O Lord!

- Let God search your heart, agree with Him and then:

2. Ask for Wisdom to Change – Examine my heart and mind

- And then co-operate.

3. Keep His Love Before You!

- Focus your thoughts and imaginations on Gods love, grace, goodness.

4. Fight – Walk In Truth!

- Fight the natural inclination to think, obsess, worry and dwell on your problems and needs.

Philippians 4:8, NIV – “*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable -- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy -- think about such things.*”