Intimacy with God
Developing a God-Centered Life
"… How to Develop a Heart after God"
An Orientation - Crystalizing the Call
Our Quest: Knowing God

Key Learnings & Homework Review

- Image-Bearer
- Homework Week#1 (Quest Commitment):
  - Sign and return commitment card (3x5) - *"I willingly decide to…"*
  - If you're a creative writer… write it out in the form of poetry (Ephesians 2:10) "workmanship" ποίημα,*n* (poy'-ay-mah).

Defining the Problem Clearly *(Chuck Swindoll, Intimacy with the Almighty)*

- "The Core Problem in our lives is stated as, "An absence of intimacy with the Almighty. Involvements, yes, but not intimacy. Activities and programs a plenty, but NOT intimacy!"
- "We must learn anew to think deeply, to worship meaningfully, to meditate unhurriedly!"
- "There is nothing, absolutely nothing, of greater importance in all the universe than knowing Christ intensely and intimately!"
- "Worship is a response – an active, open, unguarded response to God, whereby we declare His worth in an intimate manner, leaving Him room to touch us, to flood us with His peaceful presence!"

Today's Learning Objective:

To understand the _____ _____ our hearts must make in order to pursue our quest towards _____ with God

Crystalizing the Call Outline

- **Our Quest**
  - To intentionally yearn to _____ God and _____ Him with all our hearts
- **Our Motive**
  - To purposefully _____ for the pleasure of the King
- **Our Worship**
  - To honestly _____ and deliberately _____ the passions of our hearts

Our Quest

"To intentionally yearn to know God and seek Him with all our hearts"

- To say we want to *"intentionally yearn"* concludes that we…
  - Conscientiously don't do that to the level we want to today
  - Want to go on a _____ that will teach us how to *"know God"*
- To *"know"* conveys the idea of a full, rich, thorough knowledge that involves a degree of personal or _____ understanding of a specific subject (Jeremiah 9:23-24; Genesis 5:21-24)
- The _____ calling for mankind is to *"know* _____*"*… in order to do so, we must…
  - Learn _____ _____ understand, fear, please and worship God (Psalm 86:11)
  - In order to do that, we must acquire, cultivate and nurture a _____ view of God which only comes from the _____ (Isaiah 66:1-2)

Why should we desire to know our God?

- To expose the _____ about us (Isaiah 6:5)
- To view the _____ properly (Daniel 4:34-37)
- To _____ Him and be _____ in conflicts/trials (Psalm 9:10; Daniel 11:32-33)

- To gain understanding, discernment and _____ (Proverbs 2:6; 9:10)
- To know the way, truth and experience abundant _____ (John 14:6; 10:10)
- To bear much _____ (John 15:4, 8)
- To experience _____ with the Almighty (John 15:10)
- To prove we are His _____ (John 15:8)
- To be fulfilled and make our _____ complete (John 15:11)
- To usher ourselves into _____ dimensions (John 17:3; Romans 8:36-37)
- To motivate us to become _____ Him (1 Peter 1:14-16)
- To praise, worship and give Him _____ (Revelation 1:5-6; 4:8-10; 5:9-10, 12-14; 7:10; 11:15-17; 15:3-4; 19:1-6)

What are you obsessed with?

- What is the passion of your soul?
- How would anyone know or conclude that? (Revelation 2:4; 2 Corinthians 11:2-3)
- Solomon said that wisdom begins with the knowledge, fear and understanding of the _____ _____ and that nothing can compete with that intrinsic _____ (Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; 2:5-6; 3:13-15; 9:10)
- We are exhorted by Paul and Peter to *"know* _____*"* (Colossians 2:2-3; 3:9-10; 2 Peter 3:18; Philippians 3:10-14)

"… and seek Him with all our hearts"

- We can't know Him until we *"seek Him with* _____ *our hearts"* (Psalm 27:8; 119:10; Matthew 22:37)
    - God promises that when we decide to *"seek"* Him He will allow us to _____ Him (Jeremiah 29:12-14a; Isaiah 64:4; Lamentations 3:25)
- The _____ of our hearts is everything in our pursuit (Psalm 145:18; Hebrews 10:22; Isaiah 57:15)
    - There is an amazing _____ of discovery in the pursuit of knowing God and His glory that will never, ever, ever _____

- It is by becoming consumed with the _____ of the Lord and through the process of _____ Him “face to face” that God transforms us into His likeness (2 Corinthians 3:18; Exodus 33:18)

The Glory of God

The majestic, splendorous, jaw-dropping, multi-prismatic _____ which emanates from the radiant, out-shining of the aggregated attributes of God’s magnetic and infinite _____ which is manifested in unapproachable, inaccessible, explosive, brilliant, incandescent, lightning white-hot _____ which no mortal man has ever fully seen or has ever begun to have experienced!!!

In Summary…

As we intentionally yearn to know God in all His glory…

And we seek Him with all our hearts…

He has promised He will disclose Himself to us and..

This exciting journey will be a never-ending pleasure of discovery
that no other pursuit can ever rival…

It will fulfill us and fully satisfy our souls!!!

Homework / "Going Deeper"

- Read and meditate on the following scriptures that speak about *"to Him be the glory"*. Write down and be ready to share what each one says as to what God should get the glory for in each passage…
  - Daniel 7:14 -
  - Romans 11:36 -
  - Romans 16:27 -
  - Ephesians 3:21 -
  - Philippians 4:19–20 -
  - I Timothy 1:15–17 -
  - II Timothy 4:18 -
  - I Peter 4:11 -
  - I Peter 5: 10–11 -
  - II Peter 3:18 -
  - Jude 24–25 -
  - Revelation 1:6; 5:9-10 -
  - Revelation 5:11–14 -
  - Revelation 7:10–12 -
  - Revelation 19:4-9 -
  - Revelation 21:11, 23 -

- Listen to and meditate on the following songs :

Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of Earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Oh soul are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness to see
There's a light for a look at the Savior
And life more abundant and free

His words shall not fail you, He promised
Believe Him and all will be well
Then go to a world that is dying
His perfect salvation to tell

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Knowing You

All I once held dear, built my life upon
All this world reveres and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now compared to this

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You Lord

Now my heart's desire is to know You more
To be found in You and know as Yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All surpassing gift of righteousness

Oh to know the power of Your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like You in Your death, my Lord
So with You to live and never die

Favorite Songs about Intimacy with God: http://wowgod.org/songs.htm

You Won't Relent Until You Have it all – Jesus Culture:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEJnePjJZaM

Intimacy with God (Andy Stanley): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMpj0cXldnk

Our Intimacy with God -- Charles Stanley, In Touch Ministries:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euVeNL2t9nA

Intimacy with God – Francis Chan (5 part series)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Ci9rFXYWaM&index=1&list=PLJONBvhDdBHqr0iDyK96fFpaxM2I8_OZf

The Awe Factor Of God - Francis Chan: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Ya12I036Ig

Stop and Think (The Movie) - Featuring Francis Chan:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnnSS0_-xoA

Sincerely yearn for a deeper knowledge and understanding of God

- John MacArthur, The Ultimate Priority – Worship
    - "The knowledge of God is the product of wisdom. A man is wise ONLY to the degree he understands the true God!"
- A. W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God – "The Human Thirst for the Divine"
    - "The impulse to pursue God originates with God, but the outworking of that impulse is our following hard after Him!"
    - "Once a man is saved he is not necessarily hungry nor thirsty after God. I fact, he is taught to be satisfied and is encouraged to be content with little!"
    - "God waits to be wanted!"
    - "God wants to be desired!"
    - "We need to become Children of the Burning Heart!"
    - "The man who has God as His Treasure has all things in One!"
    - "Life away from the Presence, wrenched loose from that blissful center is the loss which causes our unceasing restlessness!"
- A. W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy
    - "One's pursuit of the knowledge of the Majesty is the most rewarding quest any man can ever embark upon"
    - "Any forward step in the Church must begin with the individual. Acquaint yourself with God. To regain our lost power we must see heaven opened and have a transforming vision of God!"
- Augustine – "Thou hast formed us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee!"
- Will Durant (historian)
    - "The greatest question of our time is not communism versus individualism. It is not Europe versus America. It is not even the east versus the west. It is whether man can bear to live without God!"