

## **“Find Out What Pleases the Lord”**

**August 14, 2016**

**Ephesians 5:10- “Find out (*search for; seek to obtain/encounter*) what pleases the Lord.” (NOTE: Our highest calling is to be “friends of God”)**

### **CORE CONVICTIONS:**

- 1. For starters, He *IS* pleased with us! (Zephaniah 3:17; Psalm 149:4)**
- 2. We CAN find out what pleases Him! (Luke 10:21- He finds “great pleasure” in “revealing things” to us!)**
- 3. We CAN please Him! (He’s not hard to please!)**
- 4. He HELPS US to do what pleases Him! (Philippians 2:13- *“It is GOD who works in you to will and do His good pleasure” (KJV) “He will continually revitalize you, implanting within you the desires and passions to see His longings fulfilled.” (TPT); Hebrews 13:21- He will “equip you with everything good for doing His will...(working) in us what is pleasing to Him.” (NIV)*)**

### **SOME OF THE THINGS THAT PLEASE HIM:**

#### **1. When we DEPEND ON Him**

**John 8:27-30- Jesus speaks to the heart of what pleases His Father (i.e., “I always please My Father”):**

- “I do nothing on My own”
- “I speak what the Father has taught me”
- I live in the reality that He’s always “with Me” (never alone!)

**NOTE: Converse of Hebrews 11:6- when we trust Him—it is extremely possible to please Him!**

#### **2. When we SPEND TIME WITH HIM**

- **David was after His heart (Acts 13:22)—not just His presence (NOTE: We can be in the presence of others—yet never connect with their hearts)**
- **He “inquired in His temple” (more than “Why?” & “When?”) I believe he frequently sought to know what was on His heart, as a man “after” it!**

**Psalm 27:4- David’s 3 favorite ways to spend time with Him:**

- **“Dwell”- to spend life with—worship doesn’t stop when the music does**
- **“Behold”- if we overwhelm His with one look (SOS 4:9)—what a gaze does?**
- **“Meditate”- mutter; saying what He said—hanging on His words**

### 3. When HE HEARS OUR EXPRESSIONS

- **Songs flow from deep within us (i.e., “Making melody in our hearts”)**
  - **Psalm 69:30-31- “Praise Him with a song pleases Him MORE than the greatest sacrifice of an ox or bull”**
  - **Ephesians 5:19- Psalms** are declaring the Scriptures. **Hymns** are declaring the encouraging words of others. **Spiritual songs** are your own unique expressions!
- **Words that reflect His words (i.e., Bethany: “Hi, Daddy who dear loves me!”)**
  - **If “careless, lifeless, worthless words grieve the HS” Ephesians 4:30—imagine what life-giving words do to His heart!**
  - **Psalm 139 may have been the LORD’s favorite of David’s songs**

### 4. When we JOIN HIM ON HIS ADVENTURES—TAKING RISKS & SIEZING OPPORTUNITIES

**Ephesians 5:8- “you once were darkness, but now you have the very light of the Lord shining thru you. Your mission is to live as children flooded with His revelation-light!” (NLT)**

- **Don’t ignore “darkness”—just don’t become obsessed with it!**
- **Take risks—spontaneously responding to KAIROS moments!**  
**(Opportunities filled with potential; calling for decision/action)**
  - **“Take full advantage of every day as you spend your life for His purposes.” (Ephesians 5:15 TPT)**
  - **Revelation 12:12- “Devil is filled with fury—because he knows his KAIROS is limited” (because believers have seized them!)**

### DECLARATION- Ephesians 5 (TPT)

- **You will live as His children—flooded with His revelation-light!**
- **You will learn to choose what is beautiful to the LORD!**
- **The supernatural fruits will be seen in you—goodness, righteousness, & truth!**
- **You will live with true wisdom—having discernment to fully understand His will.**
- **You will take full advantage of every day—spending your life for His purposes!**

**CLOSING- Song “Take Courage”—sung over those coming to places of renewed dependence on Him!**