

Psalm 119: Nurturing Passion For God **When You Desire Something More than God** **Psalm 119:33-40**

Introduction

We often find ourselves wanting something else more than God. So what should we do at those times? God tells us in today's passage in Psalm 119.

What do we learn about the author's spiritual condition?

V.36 shows that he's wanting selfish gain more than meeting God in the Word.
V.37 shows that he's looking at worthless things more than he's looking to God.
So the author is struggling with wanting other things more than God.

What do we need when we struggle with wanting something else more than God?

We might think that what we need is discipline; but that's not what the author asks for. Twice in these verses the author asks God to give him life — the spiritual life of sensing God's love, God's presence, God's glory (vv.37,40).
It's like we are an empty cup thirsty for water, longing for the little water drops of sin. The way God frees us from wanting sin, is to pour his living water into our souls. Then, when our heart-thirsts are quenched, we'll have no desire for the little water drops of sin.

How does the author seek life from God?

He asks God to teach him the Word (vv.33-34)

He asks God to change his heart (vv.35-37)

He asks God to give him life (v.37)

He asks God to strengthen his faith in the promises (v.38)

Probably the promise that God will give him life and change his heart.

He asks God to turn away the reproach he dreads (v.39)

Probably the reproach that would come to God if he sinned against God

He again asks God to give him life (v.40)

Because that's what's most important.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What do you usually do when you find yourself desiring something else more than God? What new thoughts did these eight verses give you?

Does it make sense that, when you are thirsty and looking to sin, the most important thing is to receive a fresh outpouring of living water from God? Why or why not?

Do you agree that when we seek God in the Word and prayer — he will pour his life into us and satisfy our hearts with his presence? Why or why not?

Which of the six steps taken by the author make the most sense to you? Which of them is the most puzzling to you?

Are you struggling right now with desiring anything more than God? Share it with the group, have them share helpful Scriptures and encouragements with you, and have them pray for you.

