Renewing Your Passion for God
You Must Delight Yourself with Him
Psalm 37:4-5; 1 Samuel 30:1-6
Introduction...

We are in the middle of a new series called “Renewing You Passion for God”

We looked at what it means to have passion for God – “deer panting for water”

What we are most passionate for is what drives us

We looked at at the importance of focus
YOU MUST DELIGHT YOURSELF IN HIM

Introduction...

If we are to renew a passion for God, our focus must be on Him and Him alone and not the problems, hurts, disappointments, etc. that blind us from seeing God.

Last week, we turned our focus to what it really means to know God.
YOU MUST DELIGHT YOURSELF IN HIM

Introduction...

Really knowing Him and His love for us creates passion

When we focus on Him above all things and come to really know His love for us...

This enables us to truly delight ourselves in Him
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What it means to delight in something...

Bob gives us an example
Eating supper is not a duty
It is his delight
He pursues it with a passion
He wasn’t afraid to show it
Nothing else mattered
Everyone saw his enjoyment
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What it means to delight in something...

Why is it important to delight in the Lord?

It is what we were created for

Before the “fall” Adam and Eve had a unique and special relationship with God

After the “fall” they hid from God

It comes with a great promise...
Psalm 37:4-5

“Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.”
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God will give you the desires of your heart...

Talk about an awesome promise!

What does it really mean?

When God is our greatest desire, all our desires will mirror His desires for us

He will give us the desires of our heart

This doesn't exempt us from trials
“Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire, and had taken captive the women and those who were there, from small to great;
they did not kill anyone, but carried them away and went their way. So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive. Then David and the people who were with him

1 Samuel 30:1-6
lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep. And David’s two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive. Now David was greatly distressed,
for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.”
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Case Study...

David and his men have been faithfully serving God

While away from home, the Amalekites attacked Ziklag and took their families

David and his men first responded with mourning – they wept (they all did this)

David’s men wanted to stone him
Case Study...

The response of David’s men was ungodly at best.

David responded in a godly way. David sought the Lord “his delight” and found strength in the Lord.

Why the difference in response?

Their focus and their hearts.
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So, beloved...
How do we delight in the Lord?

First, there must be a relationship with God.

Delight means to take pleasure in something or someone.

We must focus on Him.

We must really know Him.

That’s why we began looking at these
YOU MUST DELIGHT YOURSELF IN HIM

How do we delight in the Lord?

First, there must be a relationship with God.

We must realize He is approachable.

He really is.

The temple curtain which symbolized our separation from God because of our sins was torn down 2000 years ago.
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How do we delight in the Lord?

Next, we must commit our ways to Him

“Commit” means “to roll over”

The idea is that of rolling a heavy burden from ourselves on another

Carrying the burdens of our lives by ourselves can keep us from enjoying God

Our focus will be on our burdens
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How do we delight in the Lord?

Then, we must trust our ways to Him

“Trust” means “to be confident”

The idea is we are confident that God can and will take care of us

When we do this, we have no worries or concerns

We can’t take them back
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How do we delight in the Lord?

Then, we must trust our ways to Him

Think about a little baby

Does a baby worry about his or her life?

They trust all of that to their parent(s)

They grow to love them more and more

The same happens when we trust God with our lives
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God rewards such commitment and trust...

He gives us the desires of our heart

Our desires have become His desires

“He will bring it to pass”

“It” will happen in His time

“It” will happen in His way

“It” will accomplish His purpose
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For us...

Do you delight in Him?

Am I manipulating, murmuring, arguing, complaining about my life?

Or am I willing to say “no” to fretting and simply rest in God and watch Him work?

If I commit my life to Him and trust Him, He will give me the desires of my heart and bring them to pass
YOU MUST DELIGHT YOURSELF IN HIM

So, beloved...

DELIGHT YOURSELF IN THE LORD