He is our first love. Our heart's longings are satisfied in Him alone. Passion speaks to obeying the greatest commandment, love God.

When we seek God we find Him

The book of Jeremiah gives us an amazing promise "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart." (Jer 29:13)

God has invited us to truly know him.

Read

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. 6 This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. 8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! 9 Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!10 The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Psalm 34:4-10

"The great secret of the Christian life is to begin experiencing God as He desires me to experience Him. God's greatest delight is to bring me into His presence."

— A.W. Tozer,Delighting in God

Did you notice there is a promise in every verse for those who seek God?

v4 He answers us

v4 Delivered us from all my fears

v5 Shall never be ashamed

Saves us out of all our troubles Blessed is the man Lack no good thing

Is there a promise in there that you could use today? Seeking God has many benefits, the greatest is really knowing God! When start to really know God and what he's like <u>He becomes our great delight.</u>

God becomes our Passion when He becomes our Delight

"But to enjoy him we must know him.
Seeing is savoring. If he remains a
blurry, vague fog, we may be intrigued
for a season. But we will not be stunned
with joy, as when the fog clears and you
find yourself on the brink of some vast
precipice."

- John Piper, Desiring God

Here is what God is like:

- -God is love (1 John 4:8) and he is the very definition of good. (Psalm 31:19, 34:8, 119:68, 107:1 Nahum 1:7)
- -God is light (1 John 1:5), our standard for right and wrong.
- **-He, himself, is our delight and our place of rejoicing**.(Psalm 37:4, Phil 4:4)
- **-He is the desire** of our hearts and **our reward**.(Psalm 16:5)
- -He is our strength, our deliver. (Psalm 73:26, Psalm 24:4)

All of our longings are found in the person of God. Nothing in the world is able to give us the joy, peace, and contestant that God himself can give. Our pursuit should be to grow in the knowledge of God, and delight in Him.

Putting it in action

We grow in our knowledge of God in three ways: The Word of God, The Spirit of God, and The People of God. A simple way to put it would be: read your Bible, pray, spend time with other believers. We will talk more about these three in future lessons.

Discussion Questions

Can you think of an experience when God felt near to you? What was it like?

Wanting things like marriage, a career, or a satisfying life aren't wrong. In fact those desires could be from God! However, they can also be a distractions from God. What are you currently chasing after that might be a distraction from your pursuit of God?

Any time we start making changes we want to ask: what is a simple, repeatable change I can make in the next week? How are you going to cultivate your passion for God?

Go Deeper - Resources to develop your passion for God

Meditate on the nature of God

Character of God List

Nature of God by Graham Cooke: Youtube Link

Read and Meditate on Scripture

Psalm 23

Psalm 103

<u>Psalm 117</u>

Psalm 139

Books - Linked to Amazon

The Father Heart of God - Floyd McClung

The Knowledge of the Holy - A.W. Tozer

Face to Face with God - Bill Johnson