

Pursuing God
by Bob Young
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I wrote recently about the presence of God. To thirst after God as the deer thirsts for water—this is appetite, intense desire, felt need, pursuit. To thirst, to hunger, to need air when the lungs are bursting after a long time underwater—these are not merely casual.

Allow me a modern version of Jesus' interaction with Peter in John 21. "God, how am I ever going to get out of this financial hole?" the man asked. "Pursue Me," the Lord responded. "But God, I have been doing that, and look at the difficulty I'm in now. What do you mean, 'Pursue Me?'" "Pursue Me," the Lord answered again. A third time the man responded, "I don't understand. What do you mean?" "Pursue Me," was the Lord's reply.

The pursuit of God is at times frustrating. We want a list of things to do. God wants us. How do we pursue God? We seldom do it very well. What if we purposed to rise each morning and pursue God like never before?

- Pursuing God means abandoning our standard twenty or thirty minutes of quiet time each day. Instead, we will read the Bible and pray until God comes.
- Pursuing God means dealing with our materialism and covetousness (Paul compares it to idolatry).
- Pursuing God until he is present is the source of understanding his mysteries and growing and maturing in Him.

Michael Pink's description of the process is this: "I quit trying to be the rainmaker and simply followed the cloud of God and became a raincatcher." Jesus said it this way, "Pursue the kingdom first and God adds everything else you need for life." Seek ye first.... What are you looking for in life? Is it God? Is your life a reflection of what happens when one pursues God, or what happens when one pursues a lot of stuff besides God?