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He rescued me because He delighted in me. Ps 18:19b

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: One thing I have desired of the Lord, that I shall seek after: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple. Ps 27:4

Hungering After God's Presence

Have you ever felt stuck in your walk with the Lord? Like you're not going anywhere? Not moving forward? Or if there's any movement, it's probably backward?

Being hungry for the Lord and His presence must be an intentional pursuit; one that we give ourselves to every day in our life as a disciple of Jesus. This pursuit is a personal one for our own growth and maturity, and it is a corporate one that a congregation takes on as you grow together as a specific representation in the larger Body of Christ. In Psalm 27:4, David reflects this corporate pursuit of God's presence when he declares that what he is seeking after is to "dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of his life, and to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple." The Lord's presence was in His temple. David wanted to live there, where he would be able to behold the beauty of being in the Lord's presence. We have that opportunity today, both individually in our daily pursuit of becoming more perfectly conformed to the image of Jesus, and corporately as we grow together attaining the unity of the Spirit as a congregation as well as in the larger Body of Christ.

The challenge in all this that we must be aware of, though, is that we have an enemy who wants to steal from us, kill us spiritually, and destroy what maturity we are attaining so that we do not get to grow in our hunger for the presence of God in our lives. The devil would like to lead us into complacency, into apathy, and into the mundane things of life and deceive us into believing that just because we do some of the right things, say the right prayers, act the right ways, function in our callings and giftings, that we no longer need to grow. We've arrived! The deception is that while we can be doing all those wonderful things, we may still be missing out on pursuing God's presence in the day to day. Even in daily dedicated time in the Scriptures, we can miss the Lord's presence with us showing us the very things we need for our maturing in Him and knowing Him more completely.

In his book The Practice of the Presence of God, Brother Lawrence writes, "He does not ask much of us, merely a thought of Him from time to time, a little act of adoration, somethings to ask for His grace, sometimes to offer Him your sufferings, at other times to thank Him for the graces, past and present, He has bestowed on you, in the midst of your troubles to take solace in Him as often as you can. Lift up your heart to Him during your meals and in company; the least little remembrance will always be the most pleasing to Him. One need not cry out very loudly; He is nearer to us than we think."

Brother Lawrence talks about making time with God a priority all throughout our days. Even in the smallest of things that we do where we can remember that He is with us every moment of every day in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

When the Body assembles, our expression will naturally take on a different form and dynamic than each of us individually has when we're in our own dedicated private time with the Lord. There is a different kind of expectation of His power and promise; an excitement and anticipation of the Holy Spirit moving to glorify the Father and edify the saints gathered, increasing their faith and trust in the Lord's presence and promises of His Word.

Ask yourself is my time with the Lord a consistent satisfying time with Him? In that time am I truly entering into His presence? Am I growing in my knowledge of Him? In John 17:3, Jesus prayed to the Father, "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, AND (my emphasis) Jesus Christ, whom You have sent." What kind of growth am I experiencing in knowing Him and being more completely conformed to the image of Jesus. Am I spending time in praise and worship daily? Am I being fed by the Word of God regularly? Is my prayer time satisfying to me and the Lord both? I am asking myself these questions, too.

One way to show your hunger for the Lord's active, manifest presence in your life is to ask Him, "What are You doing today? Can I join You? Lead me to those I can share with what you are about, who need to know you, too." Then listen to what He speaks to your spirit and look for ways He presents opportunities for you to enter into His work.

Would you classify yourself as one who seeks the Lord's manifest presence in your life on a regular basis? Are you one who goes about your day looking to love and be kind, but are not consciously aware that you are carrying Jesus with you? Hungering for the Lord's presence is an active and intentional endeavor. It's not a one-time experience you had when you got born-again; not a "one and done." Our relationship with the Lord cannot be that way. It must be ongoing, intentional, growing, lively, dynamic, fulfilling, Spirit-empowered, fruitful and submitted daily to the Lordship of King Jesus. If my relationship with Jesus is not these things, I need to face myself in the mirror and ask, "Why am I allowing myself to stay stuck?"

In Matthew 5:6, Jesus told the gathered crowd, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." Righteousness has been defined as being in right relationship to God, or in right standing with Him. How can I be in right relationship to God if I'm not hungering and thirsting for Him? And how can I be truly satisfied if I'm not hungering and thirsting after Him? And if I think I'm satisfied in my relationship with Him, but I'm not hungering and thirsting after His presence, then I must be deceived, because He said the satisfied ones are the ones who hunger and thirst for His righteousness. Father will always satisfy us if we're hungry and thirsty enough to come to Him to be fed.

Finally, we need to seek His face, not just the work of His hand. We need to let Him know that we want to know Him at any cost, no matter what it takes, even when we think the cost is too much to pay. We need to let Him know we don't just want to experience His presence occasionally, we want to live there, to move in, take up residence and experience knowing Him more completely all the time. Psalm 16:11 tells us as David writes, "You will make known to me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand, there are pleasures forever." He knew that hunger. We can, too.

Responses From You

From a prayer warrior in southern KY: Praying for you and Fran tonight.

From a fellow ministry leader: Daniel, we certainly need patience with technology issues the older we get. And GOD does provide.

From a dear sister in Australia: Wow, just as well Daniel. That would sure have been a test of endurance and trusting. Regards

Year-End Giving

2025 has been a wonderful year of opportunities to exhibit Abba's Delight ministry at various meetings and conferences, and for speaking engagements at churches, radio interviews, and podcasts. Donations from Abba's Delight donors and supporters have made participation possible at these events. On behalf of the Abba's Delight Board of Directors and myself, I thank you for your provision in the past, and I ask that you would consider prayerfully either a one-time donation or a monthly commitment to partner with us in 2026 with your tax-deductible gift. Checks may be made payable to Abba's Delight and forwarded to the address at the top of this newsletter. Thank you for your consideration.

Ongoing Prayer Requests

New Participants for Overcomers Group and new online lay-counselees Ministry Finances

Open doors to churches, so pastor and staff can be effectively equipped

Those currently being served by Abba's Delight ministry's Overcomers group and online lay-counselees Continued freedom to operate ministry in KY

Continued speaking engagements

New participants so we can reinstall our Family & Friends Group



If you do not wish to receive the Abba's Delight Ministry Newsletter any longer, please let me know. If you do wish to continue to receive it, please be certain to put our email address in your address book, so that this mailing does not go to your spam, and report to your carrier. Thank you.

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now and forever. Amen. Jude 24-25