

## Episode 015

# Prophetic Lifestyle: Desire For God

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## Introduction

Desire means to yearn for, long for, crave for, and set one's heart on.

What does a desire for God look like?

A great example is that of King David, who was called a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22 (NIV) After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'). Despite not being perfect and having flaws, he set his heart upon God and was passionate about pursuing God's purposes for his generation. Acts 13:36 (NIV) For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed.)

**Why is it important to keep that desire for God pure and strong in our lives?**

### 1. Vessels for God's yearnings

As we make God our desire, we become the means for God to pour out His passionate yearnings into our hearts, for it is God who is at work in us, both to will and work for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13). We must be open books for God to fill our lives.

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV) so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Will you be His vessel for Him to move through?



## 2. Focused on Jesus

A pure desire for God keeps us focused on Jesus and not concerned about our own agenda. God is concerned with our inner motivations and looks for truth in our inward parts, desiring an undivided heart toward Him.

Psalm 86:11 (NIV) Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Psalm 51:6 (NIV) Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Not to be double minded and not to be distracted by other things (sometimes could be good things too but not in His specific will)

Loyalty: we need to have a pure desire, yearning to be faithful and true to the Lord.

1 Chronicles 29:18-19 (NIV) O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you. And give my son Solomon the wholehearted devotion to keep your commands, requirements..”

## 3. Persistent and consistent toward God

A desire for God keeps us persistent and consistent in seeking to be and do all for His glory.

2 Chronicles 1:11-12 (NIV) God said to Solomon, "Since this is your heart's desire and you have not asked for wealth, riches or honor, nor for the death of your enemies, and since you have not asked for a long life but for wisdom and knowledge to govern my people over whom I have made you king, ...

Psalm 40:6-8 (NIV) Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, 8 I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."



Psalm 73:25 (NIV) 25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

Proverbs 10:24 (NIV) What the wicked dreads will overtake him; what the righteous desire will be granted.

Proverbs 11:23 (NIV) The desire of the righteous ends only in good, but the hope of the wicked only in wrath.

Proverbs 12:12 (NIV) The wicked desire the plunder of evil men, but the root of the righteous flourishes.

#### **4. Enduring long-awaited replies**

A desire for God helps us to endure and not give up easily, especially in the midst of long-awaited replies or God's vindication.

Psalm 40:14 (NIV) May all who seek to take my life be put to shame and confusion; may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace.

Psalm 41:2 (NIV) The LORD will protect him and preserve his life; he will bless him in the land and not surrender him to the desire of his foes.

Psalm 70:2 (NIV) May those who seek my life be put to shame and confusion; may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace.

#### **5. Communicating God's heart**

A desire for God enables us to communicate God's heart to people in all different seasons, exhorting others to remain secure in God's love and care.

Psalm 10:17 (NIV) You hear, O LORD, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,



## 6. Transparency and accountability

A desire for God, coupled with transparency and accountability, provides checks and balances to live honorably before God and not compromise.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV) Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

James 1:14-15 (NIV) but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Hebrews 13:18 (NIV) Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way.



## Discussion Questions

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These questions could be done personally or as part of a group discussion.

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the most excellent, how would you rate your desire for God over the past year(s)?
2. As you listen to this podcast, what are some aspects of desire for God that you need to grow in? How would you go about taking some bite-sized steps to grow in your desire for God as a prophetic person?





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