

# Loving God Like David Did

## How a Person Comes to Deeply Enjoy God

### It happens over time

- For anyone who enjoys God as much as David did, that kind of relationship with God develops over time. It doesn't happen instantly
- I think it took time for David
  - Years of meditating, worshipping, and praying out in the fields
  - Lots of walking with God through actual life experiences
- I think it takes time in general
  - One of biggest factors in how much a person enjoys God is simply how close they are to Him, but building a close relationship takes time and consistency

### What it involves

- Surrender to God
  - By "surrender" I mean seeking to obey in everything He says. I don't mean always obeying God perfectly, no one does that. I mean genuinely seeking to obey Him in everything He tells you to do even if what He tells you to do isn't what you'd prefer.
  - Surrender is necessary for a close relationship with God
    - Can't have a close relationship with someone you don't love, and Jesus says that if you love Him, you will seek to obey Him (John 14:15)
    - Jesus wants you to have Him as Lord of your life, and if you don't want Him to be Lord of your life, then you are at odds with Him
- Embracing grace (Psalm 32:1-2, 103:11-12)
  - Receiving God's forgiveness and trusting Him that He accepts you as you are because of Jesus death for your sins. And not only believing that He forgives you but trusting Him that He delights in you and He isn't angry at you.
    - If you're in Christ, you can afford to trust that
- Getting to know God's Word (Deuteronomy 17:18-20; Psalm 119:97)
  - Getting to the point where you are pretty familiar with the whole Bible
- Spending time in meditation (Psalm 145:5, 63:6)
  - Spending time thinking about God, and His glory, and what He's like, and what's on His heart and mind
    - It helps you to know God better
    - It's a way you can enjoy Him
- Spending time in worship
  - Worship is one of the places we get to enjoy God the most
- Spending time in prayer
  - It builds relationship (spiritual closeness)
  - It builds history
  - David's prayer life involved dialogue (1 Samuel 30:8; Psalm 16:7)

- The work of the Holy Spirit (1 Samuel 16:13)
  - One of the things the Spirit commonly does is opening our eyes to see His glory and helping us to enjoy Him
  - God wants you to pray for the Holy Spirit to work in you, and He wants to answer that prayer (Luke 11:11-13)
- Life experience
  - David had many experiences with God that brought him closer to God (Psalm 9:1)
- Listening to testimonies (Psalm 119:99, 143:5)

### It's all about *consistency* over time

- Not just time, but consistency
  - If growing in your relationship with God were just time, then every old Christian would be as close to God as David was, but it's not just about time, it's about *consistency* over time
- If a person does the above things and does them consistently over years, it's a pretty safe bet that they will come to the place where they have a deep enjoyment of God

### Conclusion

- Anyone can get to the place where they deeply enjoy God