



Seeking God – In the Secret Place Pastor Tosha Zwanziger 01.14.2024

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Jeremiah 29:13]

You will SEEK Me and find ME when you SEEK ME with all your heart!

[Psalm 27:8]

When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face of Lord I will seek".

[Psalm 63:1]

O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

[Proverbs 24:10]

People faint in the day of adversity because their strength is small.

[Isaiah 40:29-31]

He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

[Isaiah 40:31]

But those who wait for the LORD [who expect, look for, SEEK and hope in Him] Will gain new strength and renew their power...

[Mathew 6:6]

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your father who is in the secret place; and your father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

6 Steps to SEEK GOD in the secret place:

1. Set a time!

Morning, night, whenever you can carve out significant moments with God!

2. Set the atmosphere!

Phone on do not disturb. Worship music. Private space where you can freely talk to God!

[Mathew 6:6]

But when you pray, go into your most private room, close the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees [what is done] in secret will reward you.

3. Bring your bible, journal (digital or paper)

[Hebrews 4:1]

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Bible reading

- Genesis – Malachi
- Psalms – Song of Solomon
- Gospels – Mathew, Mark, Luke and John
- The Epistles

Journal the God thoughts that you hear and scriptures that speak to your heart!

4. Repent

[Acts 3:19]

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord. Acknowledge your sin, confess to God, ask Him to wash you clean so that you can come close to Him! Don't let sin separate you.

5. Wait On the Lord

Meditate on His word, listen, slow down, pray, worship, BE with Him!

[Isaiah 40:31]

but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

- Pray out scriptures. The Psalms
- Exercise your prayer muscle by open your mouth and thanking God and letting Him know your heart!

6. Resources

- Pursuit by Dave Patterson tfh.org
- Secrets of the Secret Place by Bob Sorge
- Reset by Bob Sorge
- Hearing God by Nathan Finocchio

Key Points:

6 Steps to SEEK GOD in the secret place:

1. Set a Time!
2. Set the atmosphere!
3. Bring your bible, journal (digital or paper)
4. Repent
5. Wait On the Lord
6. Resources

Application for the Week:

Pastor Tosha put out a challenge to take the next 21 days to apply the principles in the Secret Place handout. Step into the journey of seeking and waiting on God in 2024 and position yourself to experience His nearness and power in your life.

Discussion Questions

1. How does oxygen, or lack thereof, impact our bodies? Do you think people are consciously concerned about their oxygen under normal circumstances? Why or why not?
2. What symptoms might point to sickness in our bodies? Likewise, what indicates the condition of our faith and spiritual health?
3. What does it look like for you to seek God? What are you personally longing and believing for?
4. Have you ever had to wait for something so long that you gave up and walked away? What promise does God give to those who seek and wait on Him? (See Isaiah 40:31)
5. How is waiting on God an active process? In what ways does He renew our strength as we wait on Him? [Isaiah 40:29-31]
6. Why is repentance such a significant part of drawing close to God? How does repentance lead to refreshing?
7. What does daily waiting on God look like for you? What changes do you want or need to make in your daily waiting so that it models Christ and prepares you to receive from Him?
8. Discuss the **Key Points** to seeking God in the secret place. Which steps do you feel strong in and which steps do you need to do still?