

DAY 8: Planned For God's Pleasure

- Ephesians 1:5-6 (NCV)

Bringing pleasure to God is called "worship."

Worship is far more than music. Worship is not for your benefit. Worship is not a part of your life; it is your life. Col. 3:23 says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all our heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

DAY 9: What Makes God Smile?

If pleasing God is the goal of your life, then what becomes important is to go to the Word and find out how to do that.

- Ephesians 5:10 (MSG)
- Psalms 147:11 (NKJV)

DAY 10: The Heart of Worship

The heart of worship is surrender. It is the natural response to God's amazing love and mercy.

- 1 John 4:9-10 (MSG)

Surrender is all about one thing...can you trust? It really comes down to will you trust God with your life, will you surrender everything. Out of your trust, offer your whole heart to God. That's what worship is all about.

DAY 11: Becoming Best Friends With God

Your relationship with God has many different aspects:

1. God is your Creator and Maker
2. Lord and Master
3. Judge, Redeemer
4. Father and Savior

But, interestingly, he also wants to be **your Friend!**

- Psalms 25:14 (LB)
- Romans 5:11 (TEV)

As hard as it might be for you to believe it, God wants to be your friend!

DAY 12: Developing Your Friendship With God

You are as close to God as you choose to be.

- Proverbs 3:32 (NLT)
- James 4:8 (NLT)
- Matthew 11:19a (NKJV)

The more you become a friend of God, the more you will care about the things he cares about.

DAY 13: Worship That Pleases God

God wants all of you.

- Matthew 22:37 (NKJV)

The kind of worship that pleases God has four characteristics:

1. God is pleased when our worship is accurate.
2. God is pleased when our worship is authentic.
3. God is pleased when our worship is thoughtful.
4. God is pleased when our worship is practical.

- Romans 12:1 (NKJV)

DAY 14: When God Seems Distant

Hebrews 13:5 (NKJV)

God is real, no matter how you feel. One of the deepest levels of worship is praising God in spite of pain, thanking God during a trial, trusting God when tempted, surrendering to God while suffering, and loving God when he seems so distant.

Four simple things you can do when you feel God is so far from you:

1. Tell God exactly how you feel.
2. Focus on who God is – His unchanging nature.
3. Trust God to keep His promises.
4. Remind yourself what God has already done for you.

Remember: You were planned for God's pleasure! God gave His son Jesus, who gave up everything, so that you could have everything.