

## Message-based Study

### Connection

Do you remember one of your “first crushes” and how did it turn out?

### Content

**Relationships are not optional for us humans. Loneliness and isolation lead to illness and suffering. God knows this. He created you this way. Look at this Psalm of King David in the wilderness as a guide to making God the one you long for with no limits in a world of “relational longing.”**

What do these words mean to you?

### **Pursue God Passionately**

1. Verse 1 is written in the language of a love letter: “I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you...”

We have all felt this kind of passion for someone or something. But, have you felt this kind of passion for God?

### **Praise God Prayerfully**

2. In verse 2, David says, “I have seen you in your sanctuary and gazed upon your power and glory.” Remembering what God has done in our past helps us rely on Him when life gets hard.

When have you seen God’s power in your life?

3. Verses 3-5 repeat the word “praise” several times. David praises God over and over in the language of a close personal relationship.

If you have a relationship where all you do is ask for things and complain, we’d all say that was an unhealthy relationship. Do you have a relationship like that?

4. What could you do to steer your relationship with God away from complaining and toward praise?

### **Think of God Constantly**

5. In verse 6, David says, "I lie awake thinking of you."

Relational longing is hyper-focused. Keeping our attention on God doesn't seem easy. But reading the Bible and prayer are the activities that help us do it. "Don't worry about anything," says Philippians 4:6. "Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done."

What can you do differently today to spend more time praying and reading scripture?

### **Cling to God Fervently**

6. "I cling to you," David says in verse 8. And God clings back! "Your strong right hand holds me securely."

Knowing about God and knowing God are not the same thing. Read John 17:3 and Revelation 3:20.

What sort of relationship does Jesus promise when you "open the door" to him?

### **Commitment**

7. God offers the only true satisfaction of relational longing. Jesus gave his own life to pay the price for it. "Oh God, you are my God. I earnestly search for you," David says back in verse 1 of Psalm 63.

### **Where are you in your search for God?**



**Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat / Engage with another. Serve. Share your story.**

This week, **Share your story** with a person in your life who needs Jesus' love. Begin today with this tool of how to B.L.E.S.S them.

Would you like to give any updates to the group on someone you have shared about in the past?