

**Thy Kingdom Come (Day 7)**  
**Wednesday 27th May 2020**

'If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and **Seek My Face.....**'

Today we are encouraged to seek God's face, but doesn't the Scriptures tell us no one can see the face of God and live (Exo 33:20). So if we can't see God's face, how do we seek God's face?

In the OT the Hebrew word used for 'face' is often translated as 'presence' so when we are seeking the face of God, we are seeking His presence. The context of the reading from our theme from 2 Chronicles 7:17 is that the people were to seek His face because they had turned their faces away from Him, abandoning His ways and so they needed to return and turn their faces back to Him again, seeking His presence, His glory.

I don't find telephone calls easy because I can't see the face of the person I'm speaking with. A face reveals so much, we can capture the inward emotions, the look of affection, the smile of acceptance and agreement and also the frown of disapproval. Without these facial clues sometimes we can speak on when we should have remained silent a few minutes earlier. The Psalmist tells us to

'Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always  
**(Psalm 105:4)**

The joy of seeking God is; as we draw close to Him, He will draw close to us, (see James 4:8). James tells us to purify our hearts and stop being double minded. Focus our hearts right, hold God at the centre of our lives and worship and seek His ways always.

When we approach God in prayer we are seeking His face:

"Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD?  
Who may stand in his holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

They will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God their Saviour. Such is  
the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, God of Jacob"

**(Psalm 24:3-4)**

The true nature of the Christian walk is a life devoted to seeking God's presence and His favour. The Lord wants us to humble ourselves and seek His ways above our own, for His ways are true and right. When we humble ourselves and pray we are coming into the presence of God, seeking His face, desiring to be in a right relationship with Him.

"You, God are my God, earnestly I seek you;

I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no  
water.

I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your  
love is better than life, my lips will glorify you".

**(Psalm 63:1-3)**

How often do we come to God in prayer with our lists of needs and wants? God is already ahead of us and aware of what we need. He already knows and is making provision for what we are going to need. Sometimes we spend so much time in our prayers telling God

the detail of the situation we are praying about, its as if He is unaware and then we proceed in prayer to tell Him what He needs to do about it! How big is our God?

That may sound like intercessory prayer when we do this however, but how small would God be if I had to tell Him whats going on in the world presuming He's too busy and may have missed it, so we give Him the privilege of our wise council, thinking, {I don't know how He ever coped and managed before I turned up!!}

Seeking God's face means desiring to know His character and wanting Him — His presence — more than any other thing else in this world. Remember the first four commandments. We should learn to seek His face more than His Hand. Do we ever think of prayer in this way? Give it a try. Stop telling God how to be God and spend time desiring to be in His presence and seek His help, strength and guidance for what He is calling us to do.

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray, and seek My Face....”

### **Pray**

for the 5 people you have been holding before God asking for his mercy upon them, that their eyes may be opened to see the wonders of His grace and seek him for themselves. As your 5 are not praying for God's guidance nor seeking His face for themselves use your prayer to pray on their behalf.