

The Goal of Pleasing God (Pt 1)

Scripture – 2 Cor 5:6-10 (TNIV)

⁶ Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷ We live by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that everyone may receive what is due them for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

A. Explaining the Goal

1. Key verse – 2 Cor 5:9 (TNIV)

⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

- NKJV – “...we make it our aim to be well pleasing to Him...”
- NCV – “Our only goal is to please God...”
- Amplified – “We are constantly ambitious and strive earnestly to be pleasing to Him...”

2. 2 Cor 5:10 (TNIV) – A time of accounting

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that everyone may receive what is due them for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

3. Stephen Covey – “Begin with the end in mind”

4. 2 Cor 5:7 (TNIV) – Faith vs Sight

⁷ We live by faith, not by sight.

5. Heb 11:6 (NKJV)

⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

B. Expressing Faith

1. Faith is giving God our best

– Heb 11:4 (NLT)

⁴ It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts.

Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.

– Prov 3:9-10 (NLT)

⁹ Honor the LORD with your wealth

and with the best part of everything you produce.

¹⁰ Then he will fill your barns with grain,

and your vats will overflow with good wine.

2. Faith is fellowshipping with God – Heb 11:5 (TNIV)

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." [\[a\]](#) For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

3. Faith is making preparation – Heb 11:7 (Amplified)

⁷[Prompted] by faith Noah, being forewarned by God concerning events of which as yet there was no visible sign, took heed and diligently and reverently constructed and prepared an ark for the deliverance of his own family. By this [his faith which relied on God] he passed judgment and sentence on the world's unbelief and became an heir and possessor of righteousness ([\[a\]](#) that relation of being right into which God puts the person who has faith).

4. Faith is obeying God – Heb 11:8-10 (Amplified)

⁸[Urged on] by faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and went forth to a place which he was destined to receive as an inheritance; and he went, although he did not know or trouble his mind about where he was to go.

⁹[Prompted] by faith he dwelt as a temporary resident in the land which was designated in the promise [of God, though he was like a stranger] in a strange country, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs with him of the same promise. [\(A\)](#)

¹⁰For he was [waiting expectantly and confidently] looking forward to the city which has fixed and firm foundations, whose Architect and Builder is God.

5. Faith is choosing & valuing the spiritual – Heb 11:24-27 (TNIV)

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.