

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

OWN THE PURSUIT

DAY 1: Sunday, January 16th—... Correct Perspective

“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. ^{14a} I will be found by you, says the Lord....”

Jeremiah 29:13-14a

**Submitted by
Vangee Dyer**

**TAKE OFF THE FIG
LEAVES**

Correct Perspective of God

To desire to pursue (go after, run after, follow) God, we must first understand and acknowledge our own limits.

Jeremiah in obedience to God pens a letter to the elders, priests and prophets of the exiled from Babylon. It serves as good evidence of the love and mercy of God, that even in their despair and our rebelliousness that so often separates us from our relationship with him, he makes this promise “**you will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart**”.

Imagine for a second the fear that must have gripped the Israelites, having been removed from all that is familiar to them, it is not so farfetched a thought because we can relate to despair and desperation that comes having reached the end of our hope, we too hold steadfast to this same reassurance that if we seek him, we will find him.

Our omniscient God (all knowing) is aware that fear diminishes our ability to be faithful in our seeking of him, especially when life goes completely opposite as we had planned.

When God is the focal point of our lives, everything else revolves around that unchanging fact. When our lives focus on God the weight of fear has less power over us. God is unchanging no matter the circumstances (*Romans 8:31*)

Perspective: Having the correct perspective of God leads us to the inevitable conclusion that God loves us. When our fear cripples us or the sins done against us clouds our perspective of who God is then we can become lazy and neglectful in pursuing him.

The Battle of the mind- (*2Cor. 5:17*) this brings me to our limits. Your mind is the battleground on which the war of your emotions, purpose, effectiveness, and fullness of life is won or lost. The renewing of our minds daily about who God is quintessential to the pursuit (*Romans 12.2*) in this action we begin to pursue this amazing God. He enjoined himself in Man's welfare not simply for his own glory but his glory in men's welfare, as if there were any being better than himself because he is goodness and righteousness. His goodness and his righteousness would lead him to love us best because it is good and righteous to love us best. So, if there were no other who could love us or do us better, then we should obey him, and we should acknowledge he is sovereign and steer our course according to his laws.

Jeremiah in obedience pens this letter and God by this threatening's manifest his goodness as well as by his promises. He promises that he is rewarder he will reveal himself if we seek him. He threatens that he might not be a punisher; one is to elevate our hope and the other is to excite our fear of him. He imprints upon us the sentiments of a misery by sin and in his thundering commination that we might engage him increasingly to embrace and be guided by the motives of sweetness in his gracious promise.

Take time to meditate on scripture and experience the transformative grace over your thoughts. Declare over yourself and believe “I AM LOVED” Begin to see yourself as our Lord sees you then you will become excited about the pursuit. He is the God of hope, our eternal savior who will not neglect his promise. If you search for him with all your heart he will be found

**TIMES OF HARDSHIP DO
ENCOURAGE A HARD LOOK AT
OUR HEARTS**

*Every cutting disappointment and
difficulty we face in this life is part
of the Lord's sculpting and fitting
us into his spiritual house*

5 Questions to ask during meditation

- Why is this passage important?
- What do I need to know?
- What does it say about God?
- What does it say about me?
- How does this Reading point to Jesus?

Take the time to **REFLECT** on your **HEART** and **BELIEVE** God.

There is no other option!

NOTES
