

## Pleasing the Master Quiet Time Study

"...For Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created." (Rev. 4:11)

If God's purpose in creating us was for His own pleasure, the study of our lives should be to find out what pleases God, and then do it. Begin this quiet time study with prayer, and express to God your desire to live a life pleasing to Him. As you do this study, be listening for your Master to share with you those things that will please Him.

- 1. Being born again as God's child is a necessary prerequisite to pleasing God. Read Romans 8:8-9, I Corinthians 6:19-20 and John 1:12-13. What do you learn from these scriptures? Have you received the Master's touch in salvation? If not, why not take care of that now?
- 2. Who is your Master? On a daily basis, the world, the flesh and the devil are vying for our allegiance, tempting us away from our First Love with their empty promises. What truth does Matthew 6:24 teach us?
- 3. Take a moment right now to consider who or what is the controlling passion in your life (your master). Are your eyes wandering from the Master?
- 4. What truths do the following verses give us about the world, the flesh and the devil?

The world: Ecclesiastes 1:14; Luke 8:14; James 4:4

The flesh: Ecclesiastes 2:10-11; Galatians 5:17

The devil: John 10:10; Romans 6:20-23

- 5. The message of the world is "please yourself." Read John 8:29 and Romans 15:3a. What is the example we see in Jesus' life?
- 6. Hebrews 11:6 says that faith is a key element of pleasing God. Skim Hebrews 11 (the "Faith Hall of Fame") and summarize briefly what these people did "by faith" that pleased God (e.g. Moses chose to suffer affliction)

- 7. Read Solomon's prayer in I Kings 3:5-14. What request pleased God? What request(s) does verse 11 imply would not have pleased God?
- 8. Read Colossians 1:9-14. How does wisdom help us please our Master?
- 9. According to James 1:5, how can we get wisdom?
- 10. Our theme verse says that we are "God's workmanship." What is God desiring to do in your life according to Hebrews 13:20-21?
- 11. The following passages are specific concerning what will please or displease God in our walk. Read each passage and fill out the chart below: I Thessalonians 4:1-12; Psalms 69:30-31; I John 3:22-24

Pleasing to God Displeasing to God

12. Has God answered your prayer by showing you things you could do or change in your life that would please Him? Write those below.

Paul says in Romans 7:19a "The good that I will to do, I do not do...." We can't succeed in changing our lives, nor can we please God by trying to do it in our own strength. Take time to pray now for the help of the Holy Spirit in pleasing God.