



“Christ, Perfect Gift To Humanity”

“...Unto us, a child is born...”

Isaiah 9:6-7 NLT - *For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. [7] His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!*

Introduction

All of us are created with a capacity to desire. Desire can be healthy or unhealthy, godly or ungodly, casual or intense. We can desire something simple, like a home-cooked meal, or develop a burning passion for a cause that eventually consumes us. Some desires fuel passions to white heat, even driving a person to violence or crime to satisfy those desires. The Bible tells us to develop a desire - to hunger and thirst - for the Lord. It is good and holy to desire God, to long to know him personally, to come to love him deeply. It is also good and holy to desire the best for our families and friends, to hunger to share Christ with others, to help and bless the needy and oppressed, and to know God's Word.

Question:



Is it okay to want something?

1 KINGS 3:5 - *That night the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!"*

God created a desire within us as a means of expressing ourselves. **Desire is good and healthy if directed toward the proper object of desire: that which is good and right and God-honoring.**

Isaiah 26:8 - *LORD, we show our trust in you by obeying your laws; our heart's desire is to glorify your name.*

Your greatest desire must be a relationship with God, because that will influence all your other desires. Learning to control unhealthy desires and nurture healthy ones is a lifelong quest that has eternal implications.

How do I know if my desires are right or wrong?

Judges 14:3 *But Samson told his father, "Get her for me! She looks good to me."*

Selfish desires take only yourself into account. You become so obsessed with what you want that you forget to ask if it is what God wants, if it's actually good for you, and if it will harm others.

How can I resist evil desires?

James 3:13 *If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works.*

Matthew 6:13 - *"And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one."* - **Pray for strength in the face of temptation.**

2 Chronicles 34:33 *So Josiah removed all detestable idols.* - **Remove the source of temptation.**

Colossians 3:2 - *Think about the things of heaven.* - **Fill your mind with God.**

Proverbs 15:22 - *Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.* - **Find a person willing to help you.**

Can God help me change the desires within my heart? How?

Ezekiel 36:26 - *"And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart."*

Promise from God

Psalm 37:4 NLT

[4] Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires.

- **Wonderful Counselor:** The God of all Wisdom
- **Mighty God:** The God of all Power
- **Everlasting Father:** The God of Eternity
- **Prince of Peace:** The God of all Authority