



A Sudden Glory Bible Study

God's Lavish Response to Your Ache for Something More.

Lesson Two Recognizing God's Passionate Pursuit

Day 1

1. Read Chapter Two in *A Sudden Glory*.
2. Ponder Simon Tugwell's quote at the beginning of the chapter: "So long as we imagine it is we who have to look for God, we must often lose heart. But it is the other way about: He is looking for us." Is this a new idea for you? How does it make you feel? Please share your answer.
3. One of the most important ideas in Chapter 2 is this:

"What is the key to experiencing God's passionate pursuit? It's simple really. We must recognize and acknowledge His presence as we *live and move and have our being in Him*. Acts 17:28 must be more than a nice Bible verse; it must become a way of life. When it does, sudden glory moments will fill our lives and take our breath away. It is divine romance of the purest kind."
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So let's get this! What is the key to experiencing God's passionate pursuit? Write it down. Say it out loud. Got it? OK, let's move on.

4. Write Acts 17:28 on an index card and commit it to memory.

5. What was one concept in Chapter 2 that impacted you or ministered to you? Please share your answer in the comment box.

Day 2

1. Answer questions 1-4 of Lesson 2 in the Study Guide.
2. Share your answer to question 2: What picture does the words “drawn you” paint in your mind?
3. In question 4 you looked at some “delightful” verses. What did Song of Songs 7:10 stir in your heart? Share your answer.

Day 3

1. Answer questions 5-8 of Lesson 2 in the Study Guide.
2. What impacted you the most as you studied about Jesus’ pursuit of the Samaritan woman?
3. I hope you enjoyed looking at how Jesus pursued and won the Samaritan woman’s heart. Oh sister, He has pursued you too! Looking at question 8, share 5 of the ways Jesus has continued to pursue your heart and draw you into an intimate relationship with Him. Leave your list in the comment box.

Day 4

Day four of each week has extra Bible study questions that are not in the Bible Study Guide. These are for on-line Bible study participants who want to dig a little deeper.

1. This isn’t exactly a romantic picture of pursuit, but an important one. Read Luke 19:1-9 and answer the following questions.

Where was Jesus?

Where was Zacchaeus, and why was he there?

How did Jesus know Zach was in the tree?

An orthodox Jew like Jesus would never enter into a friendship with a tax collector. A Pharisee would not even enter a tax collector’s house, and a tax collector could not enter a Jewish home. Collecting taxes for Rome excommunicated a tax collector from the synagogue on the Sabbath and from Jerusalem for the high feasts. Then here comes Jesus, inviting himself to dinner. A moment of sudden glory for sure! Those two words, “come down,” changed Zach’s life.

How does this story show the extent Jesus would go through to pursue someone’s heart?

2. How does Jesus' actions in the following miracles demonstrate that He was more concerned with pursuing someone's heart than following religious rules...even when He knew it would cause controversy and lead to his death to do so?

Matthew 12:9-14

Luke 13:10-17, especially verse 14

John 9:1-17, especially verse 14

John 5:1-14, especially verse 9

3. Sometimes God pursues us when we don't really want to be pursued. We walk away and turn our backs on Him. What does God do to continue the pursuit when we've walked away? Hosea 11:4 Please share your answer in the comment box.

Have you ever experienced that in your own life? This is a personal question. Please share your story if you feel comfortable doing so. I know it would be an encouragement to someone.

Day 5

It's time for a video chat. Click on the video link for some face-to-face time. Don't forget to come back and share what impacted you the most in this week's study.