

One Thing I Desire

by Erlo Stegen

The sermon emphasizes the importance of desiring God's presence above all worldly pursuits, as exemplified by David's prayer in Psalm 27:4.

Duration: 1:02:30

Scripture: Psalm 27:4, Proverbs 13:20, John 8:11, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 5:25, 1 Timothy 3:6, 2 Timothy 4:16

Topics: "Knowing Christ"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher starts by acknowledging his attempts to help others but is confronted with the realization that he was given resources to keep life turning and protect financial welfare. The sermon then shifts to the story of Moses leading the children of Israel and God's frustration with them. The preacher emphasizes the importance of choosing the right friends and being faithful before marriage. The sermon concludes with a story about an artist who fails to portray the Lord Jesus in his work and the message that believers should reflect Jesus to the world.

Transcript

Now the text which the bridegroom has chosen, we find in the book of Psalms. Psalm 27, verse 4. One thing I have desired of the Lord, that I will seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. Whenever I read this verse or I hear people singing it, it touches me very deeply.

One thing I desire of the Lord, remember when God appeared to Solomon in a dream and he said, Solomon, what is your desire? What would your desire be and I'll do it for you? And he said, Lord, this is what I desire. And then the Lord said, I will give it to you and all the other things because you did not ask for all the other things you could have asked for. Now the bridegroom says, this is my desire.

Now the bridegroom says, I will give it to you and all the other things because you did not ask for all the other things you could have asked for. Now you young people and you older people, if an angel had to appear to you and say, desire, wish, whatever you like, you just say what you like, what is it that you would choose? I should actually stop now. I wish each one had a little piece of paper to make a note of his desire.

One may say, well, I desire to get rich, to have lots of money. So she went outside at night, and that's how desperate she was, and she went and prayed under a big tree where there were lots of birds and an owl also sitting in the tree. And she said, oh, God, oh, Jesus, give me a husband, give me a husband.

And she said, oh, God, oh, Jesus, give me a husband, give me a husband. So the psalmist says, oh, Lord, one thing, just one thing I desire of you, that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life. Now, who was praying this prayer? It was David.

How? Many people on their way to hell today, they excuse themselves, and they talk about the fall of David. Especially those that are immoral. They always just point to David and say, well, he also sinned.

It's like people who drink wine and alcohol. They say, well, Jesus also made wine. But they never go to the trouble to investigate and see what type of wine Jesus did make and what results it had.

I don't think it made them drunk and that they acted in their drunk stupor and wet their pants and dirtied themselves. She said, Chalman, drink me a vine. Just drink.

Look in the house tonight. Oh, it's Chalman. We are sinners.

What's him not? Little. Who's he? Why me? I remember years ago, we were driving along. A truck came past with branding on the side, and they were advertising wine, saying, drink more wine.

It will bring more happiness into your home. And some of the choir were also there, they may remember. And then just after that, we saw a man walking down the street, zigzag.

He couldn't even walk straight anymore. He was intoxicated. When he got closer, one noticed that his pants were wet.

You see, he wasn't wearing a nappy. And when he walked past, we looked, and from the back you could see he had dirtied himself, and he had sat on it, and it was stuck to him. And I thought, well, I thought, well, I don't think that man I don't think that that man brought any joy into his home that day.

I actually feel sorry for a woman that's married to a man like that, because I really don't think that he will bring any joy into the home. And I don't know whether I'd put up with a man like that. Now, yes, David did sin, but he was punished severely for it.

One can say a lot of things about that, but how he suffered as a result of that sin, where the Lord even said, you took that woman in secret, but someone will take your wives in broad daylight. God and bears Many people speak about David's fall and about his sin, but very few people speak about the depth of his repentance. Yes, David sinned, but he repented, and he didn't fall into that sin again, even when he was old already and he was cold and they couldn't get him warm.

They found the most beautiful girl, and they said that she should warm him in his bed.

But the Bible says, he did not touch her. now some people say well he was old at that at that time but some people say well you can get old in some ways but not in other ways I know some older people who say that since throughout our lives we've never been tempted in the way that we have been tempted in this recent past and I said well the devil knows that his time is short he doesn't want you in heaven he wants you in hell so he will attack you like this David prayed he said oh one thing Lord I desire of you that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life you see he repented and he turned from his sin and many will be condemned because David set a right example and they don't even follow it Jesus is even referred to as the son of David now if you had to ever were given and granted

that wish what would you desire David said oh Lord that I may dwell in your house all the days of my what are you concerned about what are you busy with what keeps you busy or are you like Martha busy and with so many other things and about this and about cooking and baking and you are and then even get upset because Mary is sitting at the Lord's feet and the Lord had to reprimand and said Martha Martha you are concerned about so many things but Mary who was sitting at the Lord's feet he said of her she's chosen the better part one thing I've desired you mother what is it that you desire he said it's one thing I desire is your desire Lord to be with you always every moment Lord I want nothing else so that God can bless you we could say much about this but time has passed I'll just leave

out some story about someone who worked in a lighthouse every month they would come and fill the tanks there with oil wasn't it at a place where there were many rocks in the sea and then one night a woman came and she said to the lighthouse keeper please can you help me with some oil I've run out of oil and I need some in my home for my me and my children she begged him for some oil to keep her family warm and he gave her some another day another man approached him and he said look I've run out of oil it's pitch-black at home please can you help me out with some oil on another day another man came and said I need some oil for the wheel of my cart everyone that came came with a legitimate request tried to please everyone and grant him or her her requests at the end of the month he started

worrying about the level of the oil in his tanks and he thought there's not much left but maybe we'll just make it but to his dismay the oil level dropped faster than expected he ran out and the light went out that night many ships were wrecked many lives were lost authorities launched an investigation to inquire why so many ships were wrecked and so many lives were lost they went into what the reason was he was very apologetic he says oh I tried to be helpful I tried to help these people in need and with all his apologies and excuses they came to the simple conclusion and they hit the nail on the head and they said look you are guilty you were given oil for one purpose only one purpose and one purpose only to keep the light burning good shooting good yeah good yeah okay Mario one thing

is necessary and that's what Mary chose Lord to be with you to be there where you are almost holy Jesus of Israel Moses led the children of Israel it's difficult to lead people it's much easier to lead a herd of cattle eventually God said to Moses Moses I'm tired of these people I'm going to destroy them but we are so nipa we are going to show you these are boosies away I'm Collegues a ball give you see seven days of when the basis is a cool new food things or to me get old who could be better now where it called it what I mean ha and he's but he said Moses because you honor and obey me I will be with you and I will bless you but I will destroy the others and I will send my angel to go before you but I cannot go with you almost what you know I'm happy now given away in get off on the

phone over the phone I'm funny look up the cream apple green lock and then Moses said Oh God if you do not go with us if your presence doesn't go with us then I don't want to go anywhere not I'm not I don't need your angel or anything else or even your blessings I want you and if you don't go with us then block my name erase it from the book of life I'm full of coffee I'm full of tumo get him oh my way now I'm cool again I'm I'm cool baby now he's he's a fooling hellos I'm fooling look no no no way not to said Lord I don't want your angel I don't want fame I don't want honor I want you and nothing else one thing I have desired to stay in the house of my Lord all the days of my life a testament Alicia I sure a testament and Tala a testament and Tala it is so it have a nappy a tipping now

in the New Testament it's put differently when it refers to the house of God and the tabernacle of the Lord Oh Stephanie my bank and I'm not sure anything is in cool John when Stephen was stoned to death

martyred he said to them oh you men of hardened hearts don't you realize God does not live in a temple a house built with with bricks and with hands and don't we also when we go to church if someone smokes he will stop smoking when he's outside and even we say you don't smoke in the church respected in America you find these wonderful churches they are decorated with gold and silver and precious stones ruby now then an African American came along one came to that church when he saw it when he went into that church he was in awe he was even scared to walk in it it was just such a wonder to

him what how many got on the booty be joining me joining a bully in the band shop because it was all about second John can't have fun and when he saw that he said I'd love to join this church just imagine what it must be like to pray and worship in such a church I walk home what I got a guy and he went out the church and looked for the pastor's house he found it and he knocked on the door when the pastor opened the door here was this man he was pitch black his complexion yes sir what can I do for you and he said to the pastor you know I've just been in your church it's a wonderful church I'd like to join your church to become a member and then the pastor was unsure because he thought of all the members of his congregation these well-to-do people who live in beautiful houses and he thought

why what will they say if this man joins our church why say how we have all them oh because he didn't know how to respond he played for time and he said to the man well maybe it would be good not just to join go home first rather pray about it first and ask God whether it's really his will that you join our well that man never came back well the man the pastor was quite the pastor was quite relieved that he didn't come back because he was worried about how his church members would react and then one day sometime later the pastor was downtown that the city and he there bumped into this african-american pastor recognized him he said but aren't you the man that came to us to join our church why why didn't you come back did the Lord not answer you and the man said no God did give me an answer

what did he say and the man said and the man said the man said pastor God did answer me the Lord Jesus told me my child don't bother about joining that church I've been trying to get into that church for the last 22 years and I have failed you see we can have the form of godliness it can look so good on the outside but God is not in it there are many other examples I wanted to use but because of time I think it's enough just to mention Moses in Germany in the 1800s there was a sculptor was his name he was extremely gifted when he made an image of a person it that figure came to life it looked like it was someone that was you just take a raw piece of stone and make something beautiful out of it when he had reached the heights in his profession then he said I want to do something really

special said I want to do something and do it must be for the Lord the figure of the Lord Jesus and I want to do it as well as I can that a person that looks at this will actually it will be it must be as if he actually sees the Lord so he took his tools and he worked two years he was finished his work of art he said I want someone to come and evaluate what I've done but I don't want to invite my friends because they just may want to flatter me and tell me it looks good he went onto the street met a girl and he asked her to come inside into his home into his studio now he had covered his work of art with a cloth and then he removed the cloth and asked the girl tell me who this is he asked her don't you know him it was a very famous person she said no sir I don't know him and I said oh I

have failed I have failed I have failed to portray the Lord Jesus because here she says she cannot even recognize him and he says I failed for I have portrayed kings and princes but I have failed to portray the Lord Jesus that people can recognize him what I failed now to the now to the couple the world everyone who looks at you must see the Lord Jesus it's Tom it's got Jess we have one I got a new dress we call

when I'm Kenyan one time don't know about Jesuit and the band when I'm a coach he burns out you find everybody born you would see you of two man I got Johnny not just born again they would choose to be me nah do you married people can the image of Jesus his glory be seen in you as the Bible requires that the husband must love his wife as Christ loved the church and the wife must

live in such a way that the church can see how it should act towards the Lord don't go to your friend who you are together with in your wrong thing someone don't go to someone who gossip you gossip together with when you talk about others when they not the present like it said tell me who your friends are then I'll tell you who you are if you want to know what someone is like just look at his or her friends and you know what they like David David said one thing I desire of the Lord that I may dwell in his house all the days of my life now God doesn't live in a house built with bricks he lives in you and so you should be in the presence of those in whom the Lord dwells are you known that you are someone that walks with God in whom God dwells the Bible says an overseer should not be someone

who's just recently gotten converted but it must be someone who has a track record who have shown with his life that he is faithful to the Lord Paul says all those in Asia have forsaken me it's such a thing possible that they're all for support but it's interesting that we hear no more of all those others but we hear about Paul and those that were with him timber you've got to have the right friends I know you by your friends now with my coat we will know you by your friends you saw how the bride came in in a white dress with a veil which is symbolic of her virginity and it was removed to be introduced to the first man in her life and with him the first woman in her life and if you're not faithful before marriage then you won't be faithful in marriage see you soon I'm a PCC which is on a

boy a kosher on can I'm a penis I'm going back a bush woman to a good Christ to Jesus is Dallas each other this morning when I bought this which is what you will all say one again sin no more nothing one more to go by got a finish this morning when I breakfast my plate fell it broke into many pieces but the beauty of the gospel is that even if your life is broke is broken in that way God can put it all together he can make all things new when you repent of your evil but then the Lord says go and sin no more Kenyan lease a release now I'm a sugar Nado who took me so free now I'm a coat this is this is a wonderful word hold on to it for the rest of your lives Jesus through his Holy Spirit can mold you and that the image of the Lord can be seen in you booty we miss a leg it goes to Paul who

up and over and for a three-day what one one more what come one on one way to a party for more than three days in three number when a three years thirty years was what one is on one way you come G and I have a lot of respect for Paul he was the man who lived the wrong life but he repented and after three days he was filled with the Holy Spirit that was after three days maybe you've been a Christian for three years maybe 30 years have you been filled with a spirit we are calling in oh my is no man fucking in the link we say this can't eat no moolah shake it why you're not let's pray for the blessing now here the bride and the bridegroom who testified before heaven and earth saying God has brought them together no man has done it and Lord as they've chosen this word may they be faithful to

it clinging to you no matter what comes their way that they may be like Job who though he lost everything he clung to you even when his wife encouraged him to curse God and to forsake you what he said but my wife you speak like a foolish woman but help these this couple lord that as they become one flesh that they will cling to you no matter what comes their way even though storms may come their way more when the storm clouds cover the sky it's pitch black lord that they will be one fully one with you totally united lord may your grace create this in their lives and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with

them till the trumpet sounds or when you call them home

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/27/SID27969.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/erlo-stegen/one-thing-i-desire/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net