

How can we make God happy?

"We were created by God to bring Him pleasure."

Outline Notes

Revelation 4:11 (nlt) *You are worthy, O lord our God, to receive glory and honour and power. For You created everything, and it is for Your pleasure that they exist and were created!*

- We were created to bring God pleasure.

Psalms 149:4a (gnb) *The Lord takes pleasure in His people...*

- **Worship is-** *"living a life pleasing to God."*

Romans 12:1 (gnb) *Because of God's great mercy... Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him. This is the true worship that you should offer.*

Ephesians 5:10 (msg) *Figure out what pleases God and then do it.*

- Four ways we can make God happy;

1. We make God happy when we love Him above everything.

Hosea 6:6 (tlb) *I don't want your sacrifices - I want your love! I don't want your offerings - I want you to know Me!*

- God wants us to know Him and to love Him.
This is why God chose Noah. Because had a relationship with God.

Genesis 6:9b (nlt) *Noah consistently followed God's will and enjoyed a close relationship with Him.*

- We were made to be a part of God's family.

Ephesians 1:5 *God's unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave Him great pleasure.*

2. We make God happy when we trust Him completely.

Psalm 147:11 (gnb) *The Lord takes pleasure in those who honour Him and trust in His constant love.*

- Noah trusted God completely. He had incredible faith in God.

Hebrews 11:7 (msg) *By faith, Noah built a ship in the middle of dry land. He was warned about something he couldn't see, and acted on what he was told... His act of faith drew a sharp line between the evil of the unbelieving world and the rightness of the believing world. As a result, Noah became intimate with God.*

- **There were three problems with this story;**
 1. The Bible says that up to that time it had never rained on earth.
 2. Noah lived several hundred miles from the ocean so how was he going to get the boat to water?
 3. How was God going to figure out what animals to choose and how was He going to get them all together and put them on board?
- What does it mean to trust God completely?
It means we trust God that He knows what is best for our lives!

Psalm 50:14 (tlb) *I want you to trust Me in your times of trouble, so I can rescue You and you can give Me glory.*

3. We make God happy when we obey Him wholeheartedly.

James 2:24 (cev) *We please God by what we do and not only by what we believe.*

- Noah is a great example of wholehearted obedience.

Hebrews 11:7b (cev) *Noah obeyed and built a boat...*

Genesis 6:22 (nlt) *Noah did everything exactly as God commanded him.*

- What does it mean to obey God wholeheartedly?
It means - *Without Reservation. No holding back. No hesitation. No procrastination. No delay.*
- It's not partial obedience. Partial obedience is disobedience!
- Wholehearted also means I do what God asks me to do enthusiastically and happily.

Psalm 100:2a (tlb) *Obey Him gladly...*

- Obeying God wholeheartedly is having the same attitude as David in;

Psalms 119:33 (tlb) *Just tell me what to do and I will do it, Lord. As long as I live I'll wholeheartedly obey.*

- The Bible says our natural inclination is to do the exact opposite of what God wants us to do.

Romans 8:8 (njb) *Those who live by their natural inclinations can never be pleasing to God.*

- It is natural for us to be self-centred!

4. We make God happy when we fulfil His purposes.

- God smiles on our lives when we fulfil the purposes He put us on earth to fulfil.

Genesis 9:1 (kjv) *Then God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth!*

- God has given us all various abilities and talents and God takes pleasure in watching us use those abilities and talents.
- People can be more interested in pleasing themselves than the Creator who made them.

John 3:19 (msg) *This is the crisis we're in. God streamed light into the world but men and women everywhere ran for the darkness because they were not really interested in pleasing God.*

- God is looking for people who will say, "I want to live my life to bring God happiness!"

Psalms 14:2 (tlb) *The Lord looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who are wise, who want to please God.*

- Will we decide to be a wise person by living a life that makes God happy?

2 Peter 1:3 (msg) *Everything that goes into a life of pleasing God has been miraculously given to us by getting to know, personally and intimately, the One who invited us to God.*

1 John 2:1b (tlb) *If you do sin there is someone to plead for you before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the One who pleases God completely.*

God has provided the power to do the right thing. And even when we don't do it or blow it, He's provided the power to get us back on track by forgiveness through His Son – Jesus!