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Daily Devotional - Thursday, April 12, 2018 - How to Develop a Heart for God

APRIL 12TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Psalm 119:9-16

What is your response when you read that David was a man after God's own heart? (See 1 Samuel 13:14.) Many of us look up to him as a spiritual giant and think to ourselves, *I could never be like that.*

But the Lord hasn't reserved this title for just one man. He wants all of us to seek Him as David did. One of our problems is the tendency to focus on just part of his story. We tend to forget that the scriptural account gives a record of David's lifetime. He had to begin pursuing the Lord the same way we do—one step at a time.

A hunger for the heavenly Father doesn't ordinarily appear all of a sudden, fully matured, in one's heart. Most of the time, it's something that must be cultivated, and the best place to begin is the Bible. That's where we listen to the Lord as He speaks to us in His Word.

Another essential element is prayer. As you read His words, start talking to Him. If it all seems dry and meaningless, ask Him to work in your life to make Scripture come alive. He loves to answer prayer in accordance with His will.

The next step is meditation. Don't "put in your time" so you can say you've read your Bible. Slow down and deliberately think about what you've read, asking, *What am I discovering about God?*

The last step is to commit. A hunger for God may not develop right away, but remember, you're working for a changed heart that will last a lifetime, not a fleeting emotional experience. Continue to fill up with the fuel that brings transformation—the Word, prayer, and meditation.

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