

WE WANT MORE

WEEK 1

SEEK

The Revelation of the Name

SEVEN-DAY DEVOTIONAL

Anchor Text: Isaiah 9:6 • Theme: Jeremiah 29:13 & Acts 17:27

SEEK — Seven-Day Devotional

This week carries more ground than usual, so it's stretched to seven days instead of five — from seeking, to the Name, to the authority in that Name, to the Comforter, to the fruit that has to come before the gifts, to the evidence that the Holy Ghost has come. Take it one day at a time. Let the pursuit of “more” start the way Jeremiah and Paul both said it has to start: with a search.

SERIES ARC (PROVISIONAL)

THIS WEEK — SEEK	COMING WEEKS
▶ The Name Revealed ▶ The Authority of the Name ▶ The Comforter Promised ▶ Fruit Before Gifts	○ Obedience Beyond the Status Quo ○ Living in the Spirit's Fullness
▶ The Evidence Given	

DAY 1 *Seek With Your Whole Heart*

READ

Jeremiah 29:13

"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

REFLECT

This promise wasn't spoken to a comfortable people. It was written inside a letter Jeremiah sent to Jewish exiles living as captives in Babylon (Jeremiah 29:1–14) people who had lost their temple, their land, and their sense of normal life.

Into that displacement, God doesn't say “wait until things get better.” He says: seek Me now, in exile, and you will find Me.

DIGGING DEEPER **BAQASH (H1245)**

The Hebrew word behind “seek” here is *baqash* not a passing glance, but a determined, diligent search. It's the word for someone finding their way home, not someone browsing from a distance.

God attaches His promise of being found to the intensity of the search: “with all your heart.” Half a heart searching will not find all of God.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Where in your life have you been glancing toward God instead of searching for Him?

What would it look like this week to seek Him “with all your heart” rather than in the leftover minutes of your day?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

God's nearness is promised to seekers, not spectators.

PRAY

Lord, I don't want to glance at You from a distance anymore. Teach me what it means to seek You with my whole heart, even especially in the seasons that feel like exile. Amen.

READ

Acts 17:27

"That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:"

REFLECT

Paul spoke these words standing in Athens a city so full of idols that the people had even built an altar "TO THE UNKNOWN GOD," just in case they'd missed one (Acts 17:23).

Paul doesn't condemn their groping. He names it for what it was: evidence that people are made to seek God, even when they don't yet know His name.

DIGGING DEEPER ZETEO (G2212) & PSĒLAPHAŌ (G5584)

"Seek" here is zeteo, close in meaning to Jeremiah's baqash but paired here with psēlaphaō "to feel after, to grope," like someone reaching through darkness for a wall.

Keep the pictures distinct: Jeremiah's audience knew God's name and was seeking their way back to Him. Paul's audience didn't yet know His name and was groping toward Him blindly. Scripture meets both kinds of seekers with the same promise He is not far.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Have you ever assumed God felt distant, when Scripture actually says the opposite?

Who in your life is groping toward God without a name for what they're reaching for and how might you help them see it's Him?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

God is not hiding from us. We are the ones who stopped looking.

PRAY

Lord, thank You that You have never been far from me, even in the seasons I felt You were. Open my eyes to see You near, and give me eyes to see the people around me who are groping toward You without knowing Your name. Amen.

DAY 3 *The Name Above Every Name*

READ

Isaiah 9:6

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

REFLECT

Isaiah wrote this into a nation staring down darkness and invasion (Isaiah 9:1–2). The name was given as light for a people in crisis, not decoration for a people at ease.

Every title in this verse describes the same Person, not five different figures.

DIGGING DEEPER EL GIBBOR “THE MIGHTY GOD”

This exact Hebrew title reappears one chapter later in Isaiah 10:21, describing Israel's return “unto the mighty God” — a title that unmistakably belongs to YHWH Himself.

Isaiah isn't softening his language when he applies El Gibbor to the child of chapter 9 he's deliberately claiming deity for Him.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Which title in Isaiah 9:6 speaks most directly to what you need from God this week Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, or Prince of Peace?

Have you been treating Jesus as a good teacher more than as the God whose name Isaiah describes?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

This is not a title given to a man who became like God. This is God who became a man.

PRAY

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace I don't want to shrink Your name down to something manageable. Reveal Yourself to me this week in the fullness of who You are. Amen.

DAY 4 *Deity Robed in Humanity*

READ

Philippians 2:6–8

"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

REFLECT

Christ didn't grasp at equality with God He released it, willingly, for us.

John 1:14 describes the same event: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." The word for "dwelt" is *eskēnōsen* "tabernacled," echoing the wilderness Tabernacle where God's glory came to live among His people (Exodus 40:34–35).

DIGGING DEEPER KENOO (G2758) "EMPTIED"

"Made himself of no reputation" translates *kenoo*, "to empty." Not emptied of deity Colossians 2:9 is clear that in Christ "dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" but emptied of the outward display of glory, in favor of "the form of a servant."

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Jesus emptied Himself to come near you. Where in your life are you clinging to comfort or status instead of humbling yourself to draw near to others?

Does the nearness of a God who "tabernacled" among us change how approachable you believe Him to be?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

We are not seeking a concept. We are seeking a Person who already came looking for us.

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for emptying Yourself so that I could be found. Give me a heart that humbles itself the way Yours did. Amen.

READ

Acts 4:10, 12

"Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... doth this man stand here before you whole... Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

REFLECT

Peter spoke these words after healing a lame man “in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth” (Acts 3:6). The religious rulers' own question “by what power, or by what name, have ye done this?” (Acts 4:7) shows they understood power and name were the same question.

Because Jesus is fully God and fully Man, His name carries real, legal authority not a technique to be mastered, but authority to be rightly invoked.

DIGGING DEEPER THE NAME AS AUTHORITY

In Matthew 1:21 the name Jesus Yeshua, “Yahweh saves” was given before His birth as a declaration of His mission, not a summary written after the fact.

One name, not many, is not narrowness. It is rescue there is one name because there was one Savior who actually walked into our exile and paid for our sin.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Where have you allowed the name of Jesus to become casual or familiar in your own mouth?

Do you pray and act as though the name of Jesus carries real authority or as though it's a phrase you add at the end of a request?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Power in the name of Jesus is God's power because the Man who bears that name is God.

PRAY

Jesus, forgive me for the moments I've treated Your name casually. Teach me to call on Your name not as a formality, but as the real authority You've given it. Amen.

DAY 6 *The Comforter Promised*

READ

Acts 1:8

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

REFLECT

Before His crucifixion, Jesus told His disciples: "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you" (John 14:18). His departure was not abandonment — it was the hinge for the Comforter's arrival.

This power is not given for our own benefit. It's given so God's will can be established on earth the same request Jesus taught us to pray: "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10).

DIGGING DEEPER PARAKLETOS (G3875) "COMFORTER"

Parakletos means one called alongside to help an advocate, summoned to stand at your side. Jesus calls the Spirit "another" Comforter (allos, "another of the same kind") the Spirit continues the exact kind of presence and help Jesus Himself had been.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Are you seeking power from the Holy Spirit for your own comfort, or for the sake of what God wants to accomplish through you?

What would change in your life if you actually waited on and expected the Comforter's help the way the disciples were told to in Acts 1:4?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

We are not seeking power for our own benefit. We are seeking it so that God's will can be established on earth.

PRAY

Holy Spirit, come alongside me the way Jesus promised You would. I don't want power for my own comfort I want to be part of Your will being done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

DAY 7 *Fruit, Gifts, and the Evidence*

READ

Acts 2:4

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

REFLECT

Galatians 5:22–23 lists the fruit of the Spirit love, joy, peace, and more as one unified character grown through abiding, not a set of gifts to pick from.

1 Corinthians 13:1 warns that speaking “with the tongues of men and of angels” without charity is “sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.” Gifts without fruit are noise.

DIGGING DEEPER — THE SIGN, GIVEN THREE TIMES

Joel 2:28 prophesied an outpouring of the Spirit “upon all flesh.” Peter quoted this exact prophecy at Pentecost, when the disciples “were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues” (Acts 2:4).

The same sign appears again at the household of Cornelius Gentile believers, proving the promise was never closed to one group (Acts 10:44–46; compare Acts 2:39). And it appears a third time at Ephesus, when Paul laid hands on the disciples there (Acts 19:6).

SEARCH YOUR HEART

Is your pursuit of the Spirit's power growing out of a life of fruit love, humility, self-control or running ahead of it?

Have you settled in your own heart what the evidence of the Holy Ghost's coming looks like in Scripture, the way the early church did?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

The Gifts only come rightly when they grow out of the Fruit and the evidence confirms when the Holy Ghost has come.

PRAY

Lord, grow Your fruit in me first, and let any gift You give me grow out of that soil. I ask for the evidence of Your Spirit's presence in my life, the way You gave it in Jerusalem, in Caesarea, and in Ephesus. Amen.

Back Before We Move Forward

As Week 1 closes, this is the only week we've walked through so far in “We Want More” so this capstone is simple: it's a chance to let the whole arc of SEEK actually settle before the series moves further into obedience and the Spirit's fullness in the weeks ahead.

This week we learned that seeking God is an active, whole-hearted pursuit (baqash) met by a God who has never been far from us (zeteo / psēlaphaō, Acts 17:27). We learned the object of that seeking has a name Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and that this name belongs to a Person who emptied Himself of the outward display of glory to become reachable (Philippians 2:6–8; John 1:14). We learned that because He is fully God and fully Man, His name carries real authority the same authority Peter invoked to heal a lame man (Acts 3:6; 4:10, 12). We learned He sent the Comforter, Parakletos, not to leave us comfortless but to empower a witness reaching to the ends of the earth, so that God's will could be established on earth (Acts 1:8; Matthew 6:10). We learned that gifts only rightly follow fruit (Galatians 5:22–23; 1 Corinthians 13:1). And we learned the evidence Scripture gives, three times, in three settings Jerusalem, Caesarea, and Ephesus that the Holy Ghost has come: they spoke with tongues.

HOW THIS CONNECTS

Next week, the series turns from WHAT God has given us toward HOW we walk it out in obedience — moving beyond the status quo into the depth Scripture describes. But that week only means something if this week's foundation is settled first: know the Name, know His authority, and know the evidence of His Spirit.

Seek Him with your whole heart. He is not far. The evidence is available to you — even in the darkest situation, when everything feels like it's falling apart.