

# Personal or Group Study Guide

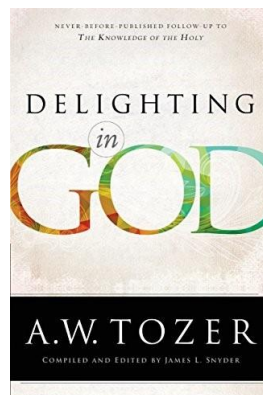
For Reflection & Discussion

A.W. TOZER

DELIGHTING

*in*

G O D



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## Introduction

### DELIGHTING IN GOD

#### *Delighting in the God We Worship*

In this book, *Delighting in God*, which is based upon sermons Dr. Tozer preached, we see the burden of his heart. Most of the sermons associated with this book were given after the publication of *The Knowledge of the Holy* that has become a devotional classic. It was Dr. Tozer's prayer and desire to live long enough to write a book on the attributes of God devotionally considered. He wanted to leave to this generation an elevated concept of the great Almighty Triune God. "*Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of Thy glory.*" Even though the publication of it far exceeded his expectations, he could never exhaust the theme of that book. The great passion of Tozer's heart and ministry was for God Himself. He emphatically believed that our worship of God must be worthy of God. In order to do that, we must know who God really is. What a person thought about God was the most important thing in Tozer's thinking. Our perception of whom and what God is, infiltrates every aspect of our lives. This applied to Tozer himself. To understand his work and ministry, you need to understand his perception of God, what he thought about God, and who God was as far as he was concerned.

Tozer was not interested in the passing trends infiltrating the Church of his day. He was concerned because from his perspective, these trends had a negative effect and were responsible for some of the losses he saw in the church. Not everyone appreciated Dr. Tozer or his teaching, and he understood that. Tozer was not interested in methodology, technology, or anything of that nature. What he was interested in, was God Himself, His nature and character, and how He has revealed this to us through the Word of God. The heartbeat of Tozer, as well as his preaching and writing, was a passion for God that took over his life. Nothing else mattered. He believed we should rejoice in God each day, but should never settle down and be content with where we are spiritually. "*Go on to perfection*" was his daily motto.

This is not a book you can read and then put on a shelf. I believe what Tozer wants to get across in this book is simply that your passion for God will determine your lifestyle. Christianity is a passion for God that can only be satisfied as we come to Jesus Christ.

Deep within the soul of mankind is that image of God, which can be satiated only by eternity. When we try to fill that hole with temporary things, we are never satisfied. Man was created to be filled with eternity. And that eternity begins with Jesus Christ the eternal Son, coming into our lives.

The purpose of this book is to stir your heart with a passion for God that will lead you into following hard after God, even disrupting those who are content with their current passion for God. If someone reads this book and is deeply disturbed, such that they seek God with a passion that cannot be satisfied apart from God, this book will have met its goal.

James L. Snyder

## Chapter One

### THE REALITY OF OUR PERCEPTION OF GOD

*O God, my heart pants for You as David's of old did. I long to know You in all the beauty of Your self-revelation, and in all of Your perfection. The way into Your heart may be difficult and treacherous, but I can bear the difficulties as long as I discover in them the fullness of Your character and nature. Amen.*

*"Not a curiosity about God, but a deep passion to experience God in all of His fullness. To know God is the one passion that drives a man to the very heart of God." A.W.T.*

We see two examples of this very passion for God, King David in the Old Testament and Paul the Apostle in the New Testament.

1. In Reference to Psalm 42:1-2, describe David's passion for God. (Pg. 14 P.1)
2. What was it about David that made him a man after God's own heart? (Pg. 14 P.2)
3. In reference to Philippians 3:10-11, describe Paul the Apostles passion for God. (Pg. 14 P.3)
4. What mattered to Paul above all else? (Bot. Pg. 14)
5. Tozer defines passion in two ways, what are they and what is the difference between the two? (Pg. 15 P.2)
6. Most people waste their passion on temporal things. Name a few things that you see are prevalent in our world today. (Mid. Pg. 15)

*"Our passion for God should lift us above the elements of the world into the heavenly spheres, where God's praise is supreme." A.W.T.*

There are three basic levels of knowing God. Write a sentence or two on each one \*Discuss (Pg. 16)

- Intellectual level:
- Theological level:
- Mystical level:

7. When Tozer is talking about the mystical level of knowing God, what is he referring to?  
Explain: (Bot. Pg. 16)

Tozer explains that the intellectual and theological levels keep us within the confines of the revealed Word of God, but this is used to lead up deeper and higher into the very heart of God.

*“If I am going to know God, I need to penetrate the manifest Presence of God, where His character and nature have been revealed to me in never-ending wonder and amazement.”*  
A.W.T.

8. It is not so much a man’s \_\_\_\_\_ that defines him, but his \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Pg.17 P.4)

9. David was not searching for a better \_\_\_\_\_. He was searching for \_\_\_\_\_.  
\*Read & Discuss (Bot. Pg. 17)

***“That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings” (Phil. 3:10)***

10. How Philippians 3:10 -11 reveal to us the real passion of Paul the Apostle and why he did the things he did? (Pgs. 18 -19) \*Read & Discuss

11. What was the key to the Apostle Paul’s ministry and the passion he had for God?  
(Pg. 19 P. 3) \*Read Pg. 19 & Discuss

King David and the Apostle Paul could not have been more different, yet both had a deep passion for God.

12. What does Tozer think is needed today, and is lacking in our churches and in our lives individually? (Bot. Pg. 19 – Mid. Pg. 20)

*“The important thing to keep in mind is that whatever keeps me away from God is my enemy, and only the power of God can overcome it.”* A.W.T.

13. How can we grow our passion for God, go deeper into His Presence, and overcome the resistance we feel from the enemy? (Bot. Pg. 20 – Top Pg. 21) \*Read & Discuss

Reason is a great asset any pursuit we may have. Reason by its nature is limited and therefore cannot help us in our pursuit of the unlimited God.

14. Reason may bring us to the \_\_\_\_\_, but only faith can \_\_\_\_\_ the door that we may go into the \_\_\_\_\_. Faith is not \_\_\_\_\_; it just operates \_\_\_\_\_ the reach of reason. Faith \_\_\_\_\_ to jump from one point on earth into the very \_\_\_\_\_. (Pg. 21 P.3)

15. Write a thought and discuss each point:

- The human heart has a thirst for God.
- Restlessness is seen in the world around us.
- God created us with a passion for Himself.
- Paul's declaration "That I may know Him."

***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Pet. 3:18)***

*"It is the passion of the Christian to grow, but the focus of our growth must be Christ. It is wonderful to know all the things around us, but to know Christ is the epitome of all knowledge. This is the passion of the Christian." A.W.T.*

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES

Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788)

# NOTES