

### **Priming The Pump**

God is an All Access God with 24/7 availability. Now, that is not to say that everyone can equally access Him. On His terms, and by definition, He is always available. Part of our problem is that we think that we should be the ones to set the ground rules and terms by which and when we can access God. If He did not want to be found, He would not be found. Don't believe me? OK, challenge God to a game of Hide-n-Seek and say, "I'm it"... then get yourself a Snickers because it's gonna be a while... Simply put, we have access to Him only because He has provided it.

*What are some common arguments/road blocks our culture has created that side track us in a pursuit of God?*

For example, I have heard people say something like, "If there is only one way to God, then He is being too exclusive and I don't like that so I am not going to bother with Him... and furthermore, if He doesn't forgive me for that, then I don't care anyway." Or "If I was God, I wouldn't (\_\_\_\_ fill in the blank w/ an action you credit to God that you don't like\_\_\_\_) like that... I would \_\_\_\_\_ < (fill in your preference). How do you answer arguments like this?

It exists in the church as well not just in the culture.

### **The Main Point 'Love God'**

*Taking onto consideration last week's defining of love, what does it then mean to love God? When did you first gain access to God? How do you know you have God's ear? What are some of the ways you are easily side tracked from pursuit of God?*

A seemingly fun upcoming show on FOX this week is "An Ice Age Christmas". What better way to divert kids (and adults) from considering truths about Christmas (and therefore God) than to create an animated, fun (movie industry proven) make-believe land where Christmas is "celebrated",...millions of years before its actual inception. Here would have been an occasion when I would have been happy had they labeled it a generic *holiday* show, but no - they blatantly call it "Christmas" with complete disregard for what Christmas actually is. Who needs Jesus when some slurpy sloth can guide us to understanding Christmas? If we are not careful we will be side tracked when we unknowingly allow FOX (and their type) to usurp our understanding of Christmas and our duty to teach our children its meaning. Oh yeah, did I mention Santa shows up in this time warped Xmas too? Apparently he's really the eternal character in Christmas. Do I overstate concern?

### **Consider The Word**

Read **2 Corinthians 4:1,2**; the NASB translates the NIV's word *distort* as *adulterating*. It literally means *to be ensnared by unfaithfulness* to the Word of God. *Why such a strong choice of words? Comparing it to adultery and sexual unfaithfulness.* Did you know that in the OT, God tells his prophet Hosea to go and marry a prostitute (named Gomer, see **Hosea 1**), and to have children. The prophets were often set apart to become literal object lessons for the people (and also for the shaping of their hearts as they delivered the messages). His life became a tragic dramatization of the unfaithfulness of God's people (their spiritual adultery), how God abhors sin, that judgment is certain, and that God's love is also loyal, in spite of spiritual adulteries. Apart from laughing at Gomer's name, what is your take-away from these passages? *What do you take away from this concerning God's view of sin?*

# Sermon Notes



Sermon Series | **God's Love Language**

Sermon Title | *Love God* 3/3

11/20/11 | Pastor Steve

morningstar



**Micah 6:8** "But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously - take God seriously." (Message)

**Psalm 24:3-6** "Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. 5 He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior. 6 Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob." (NIV)

1. God \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 24:5-6** "God is at their side; with God's help they make it. This, Jacob, is what happens to God-seekers..." (Message)



**THIS.... is what \_\_\_\_\_ to God Seekers!**

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 24:3-4** "Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false." (NIV)

**Galatians 5:7** "You were running superbly! Who cut in on you, deflecting you from the true course of obedience?" (Message)

**2 Corinthians 4:2** "Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." (NIV)

3. Full \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 24:5** "He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior." (NIV)

**Ephesians 2:18** "Through him (Jesus) we...have access to the Father." (NIV)

**1 John 5:11-12** "This is what God told us: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life, but whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life." (NCV)

1-Seekers  
Happens  
2-Sidetracked  
3-Access