

WHAT MAKES GOD SMILE?

*Revelation 4:11 (nlt) You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor 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 that is pleasing to God.

*Romans 12:1 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 smile on our life.

1. God smiles when we **love** Him above **everything** else.

*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 desires a relationship with us.

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

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

Ephesians 1:5 (nlt) 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. God smiles when we **trust** in Him **completely**.

Psalms 147:11 The Lord takes pleasure in those who honor Him and **trust** in His constant love.

Noah trusted in God completely.

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**.

Trusting God completely is to trust **IN HIM** that He knows what's best for us.

Psalms 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. God smiles 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. ...*Noah obeyed and built a boat.*

Hebrews 11:7b (cev)

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

Obeying God wholeheartedly is to obey Him without reservations and without hesitation, procrastination or delay.

*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."*

Wholehearted also means we do what God asks us to do and we do it enthusiastically.

Psalms 100:2a (tlb) Obey Him gladly...

4. God smiles when we **fulfill** His **purposes**.

*Genesis 9:1 (kjb) 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 gifting's and God takes pleasure in watching us use those abilities and gifting's.

PROBLEM

Our natural inclinations are the 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.*

Generally, people are more interested in pleasing themselves than their Creator!

***John 3:19** 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**.*

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

It is wise living that pleases God!