

The Man God is Looking for

Skip Gray

I. Introduction.

- A. Israel lived in external religious observance but outward moral corruption.
- B. God looks for one man to stand in the gap.
- C. There are great principles of life that will anchor a person.

II. Death is a prerequisite of fruitfulness. (John 12:23-24)

- A. God is looking for a man who will “die” or lose himself.
- B. If he does not “die,” he will abide alone and bring forth no fruit.
- C. We fall in the ground and die wherever the sower wants to plant the seed. Dying means unquestioning availability to the sower who is Jesus. (Matthew 13:36-38)

III. Hatred is a prerequisite of life. (John 12:25)

- A. You can love your own life and exist, but you can never love your own life and exist.
- B. Hate means to relinquish control. (John 6)

IV. Service is a prerequisite of honor. (John 12:26)

- A. We are to follow Jesus who serves. (Acts 10:38, John 12:33)
- B. Be involved with people.

V. Faith is the prerequisite of light.

- A. Commitment precedes knowledge. (John 7:17)
- B. God is looking for a man of faith.
- C. The world sees before he believes; Jesus says believing is seeing. (John 6:30; 11:40)

Application questions:

1. What does it mean to “die?”

2. What does it look like to relinquish one’s life?

3. How can you maximize your service this year? Explain.
