



40 DAYS OF FAITH

*SOUL
KEEPING*



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SOUL KEEPING

The Soul Longs for God



Hosea 4:6a

My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.

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What Is a Soul? **Your Soul**

The deepest part of you

Primary Jobs

Connect you to God

Integrate your inner life

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Sin is death now

Romans 6:23a

For the wages of sin is death,

Separation from God

Dis-integration of our will, mind and body


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Looking Inward Exercise

Close your eyes, take a few deep breaths and still your mind.
Call to mind some of your deepest desires.
Imagine yourself giving each one to Jesus.

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It is the nature of the Soul to Need

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John Ortberg Soul Keeping pg. 81

The will is a form of energy. You can drive and stretch and push the will. The mind has endless ability to think and feel. You can direct your attention. You can focus and study. The body is your little power pack. You can place demands on your body. You can exercise it, strengthen it, hone it, and force it to run for miles.

But it is the nature of the soul to need.

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The Soul Longs for God

Psalm 42:1-2, 7-8

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

⁷ Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me. ⁸ By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life.

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John Ortberg Soul Keeping pg. 82

Our soul's problem, however, is not its neediness; it's our fallenness. Our need was meant to point us to God. Instead, we fasten our minds, bodies and wills on other sources of ultimate devotion...

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Jeremiah 2:13

My people have committed two sins:
They have forsaken me, the spring of living water,
and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns
that cannot hold water.

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Romans 7:24

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me
from this body that is subject to death?

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Our Role as the Keeper of our Souls

Acknowledge that our souls are needy

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Our Role as the Keeper of our Souls

Acknowledge that our souls are needy

Name the things we turn to instead of God

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James 5:16

¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. (NLT)

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Ephesians 3:14-19

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— ¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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Ginosko

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Ginosko vs. Gnosis

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Our Magnum Opus – Our Greatest Work

Our greatest work is to figure out how God designed us individually to be in an experiential relationship with Him that causes us to know Him as He truly is.

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Soul-Keeping Exercise

In his book “The Knowledge of the Holy” A.W. Tozer says:

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. That our idea of God correspond as nearly as possible to the true being of God is of immense importance to us. Compared with our actual thoughts about Him, our creedal statements are of little consequence. Our real idea of God may lie buried under the rubbish of conventional religious notions and may require an intelligent and vigorous search before it is finally unearthed and exposed for what it is. Only after an ordeal of painful self-probing are we likely to discover what we actually believe about God.”

Take some time this week to begin this process of discovering what you actually believe about God.

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