

## UNDENIABLE FASCINATION

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is undeniably fascinated \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ are to be undeniably fascinated \_\_\_\_\_

3. Fascination can \_\_\_\_\_ every situation

4. Fascination can also \_\_\_\_\_ every situation

1. God is undeniably fascinated with us
  - a. Often we don't realize how taken God is with us
  - b. Zephaniah 3:17
    - i. He will "rejoice" over you
    - ii. lit. means to leap for joy
  - c. We feel awkward accepting His view of us, but God is 100% fascinated with you and me
  - d. Perhaps it would be good to understand this scripturally
  - e. Song of Songs 2:14-15
    - i. Here the man speaks to the woman he loves
    - ii. It is God speaking to His bride - to you
      1. He doesn't want you hidden from Him
      2. He wants to see your face and hear your voice (v. 14)
      3. His description is intimate
        - a. Sweet voice
        - b. Lovely face
        - c. This is the language of fascination and awe
      4. He doesn't want anything to come between you and Him (v. 15)
        - a. Anyone in a relationship knows its all about the details
        - b. Big gestures of love mean nothing without the follow-through of daily attention
        - c. Fascination is about making sure the little things don't mess with the relationship
  - f. Bottom line? God is committed to fascination with you. It's undeniable.
2. We are to be undeniably fascinated with Jesus
  - a. Psalm 33:8
    - i. The Hebrew word is "guwr" (gür)
    - ii. Literal meaning is "to sojourn, to abide, to dwell in, remain, inhabit"
    - iii. What this means, on a practical level, is that God isn't interested in one-night stands
    - iv. He wants permanency with you
  - b. In Matthew 17:4, Peter wasn't really that far off
  - c. He was so fascinated with the revealed presence of God that he wanted to remain in that place; he wanted to dwell
  - d. Peter's mistake was a fascination limited to a specific place or event
  - e. God's desire is that our relationship with Him be one of fascination always and everywhere
    - i. John 15:4
    - ii. "Abide" - word is "meno" which is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word "guwr"
3. Fascination can transcend every situation
  - a. To transcend is to rise above something, to outstrip or outdo in some attribute
  - b. It is what Paul speaks about in Romans 12:21 and Colossians 3:2

- c. Paul knew what he was talking about from (Acts 16:22f)
  - d. Our fascination with Jesus places us above our situation
  - e. This is a good step, but it's only the first of 2, and if it's all we do, we'll be "heavenly minded and no earthly good"
4. Fascination can also transform every situation
- a. This second key is the one that opens the door for God's glory
  - b. This is when the situation we've hoped to rise above no longer require us to
  - c. At this point, our fascination with Jesus brings Him into our situation
  - d. This is what Hebrews 12:2 is talking about when it says we are to fix our eyes on Jesus
  - e. Not because He is a goal far off, like when I fix my eyes on a mailbox or tree near the finish line of a race
  - f. Because He is moving nearer to us, bringing light to our situations
  - g. ILL: Wendy coming down the aisle at our wedding
  - h. Just as her presence and beauty changed the atmosphere of the room, so His presence changes everything.