



I wish I could take credit for this riveting comment; but the idea goes to Daniel Wallace, professor of NT studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. His statement made me think about how I relate to God and I hope it will you too! What do I mean when I say, “God is not a pit stop”?

### **Do we use God or serve Him?**

It is easy in life for our relationship to God to become a “back burner” concern. We would like to spend time with Him; but right now we are so busy! So, God waits patiently as we press on with other concerns. And then, crisis occurs and suddenly the one person we want most to talk to is God! If this is how we see God, then we are using Him rather than serving Him.

Serving God requires a different mentality. For the person who serves God, God is not an afterthought, a genie in the bottle to be rubbed and made to appear when we need Him. Instead He is the reason for everything. He is the center of the godly person’s thoughts, plans, and actions. The whole meaning of his life is bound up in God’s will and he is sure that the whole success of his life is dependent upon His blessing. Thus, he serves God daily instead of using Him occasionally. But that raises another question:

### **Is God the destination or a station on a journey to somewhere else?**

To say that God is a pit stop implies that He is like a gas station on the highway in route to somewhere else. But the critical question is, “Where are we headed?” For many the answer to that question would focus on some earthly goal—a successful business, a comfortable re-

tirement, completion of an education, etc. You get the idea. Our life journey is material and God is simply a stop-over point along the way as needed to help us toward our goals.

I submit that God is not a pit stop to a journey somewhere else; instead He is the destination! In other words, if He is all that the Scriptures affirms, then the ultimate goal of our lives should be to seek Him and find Him. Perhaps this is the idea behind that common Biblical phrase. When you are looking for something, the discovery of what you are looking for is the destination; it is the end of your searching.

In a similar way, God should be the destination of our quest. To seek Him and find Him should bring to us such satisfaction and joy that we would not want to go anywhere else. Regrettably, few people in life discover this profound truth; yet it was the reason He made us. To use Paul’s words: *“they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us”* (Ac. 17:27).

### **Seek and Serve Him!**

Let us all remember this important truth and live every day this year with these two complementary goals in mind. Take time every day to think about God and His purposes for your life. Let His will and purpose give meaning to all your activities. Serve Him with all your heart and you will not regret your decision. You will have discovered what was profoundly expressed in an ancient confession, “The chief end of man is to glory God and to enjoy Him forever”.

—Johnny