

Piper, John. *When I Don't Desire God: How To Fight For Joy*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Books, 2004.

The long-awaited sequel to *Desiring God* (DG) has arrived! In DG, Piper presented the concept of Christian Hedonism – the truth that Christians are to pursue their joy and pleasure in God. When Christians do this, God is most glorified because he is seen as infinitely satisfying. To do anything less is sin! Well, this leaves most readers excited at first since they were created to pursue their happiness in God, but then follows the heart-breaking reality – we pursue joy in others things and find ourselves not desiring God. So, Piper, almost 20 years later, answers in this book many of the questions he has received over the years and gives strategies in fighting for joy when you don't desire God. This includes a theological foundation, chapters on prayer, fasting, meditation and the disciplines of Scripture study and memorization. It ends with an excellent chapter on depression called “When the Darkness Does Not Lift.” This book is convicting as well as encouraging in fighting the good fight.

Level: Medium

Theological Stance: The Baptist General Conference

Rating: 9 ½

Recommend? Yes