



1 • KNOWING GOD

The firm foundation of a personal, intimate relationship with Christ. (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

Exodus 33:7-23 ...*Then Moses said to the Lord, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people."...*

Jeremiah 9:23-24 *This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.*

Hebrews 1:1-4 *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,...*

Philippians 3:1-16 ...*that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection,...*

SUGGESTED READING

God's Final Answer by Harold E. Helms

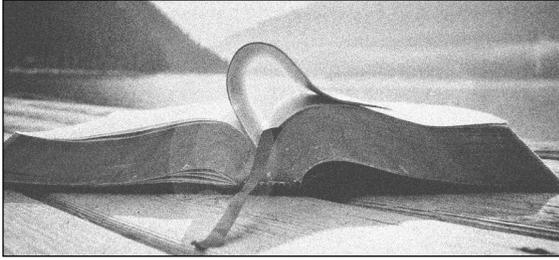
The Fear Of The Lord, Discover the Key to Intimately Knowing God by John Bevere

Experiencing God by Henry Blackaby and Claude V. King

The Power of God's Names by Tony Evans

KNOWING HIM

1. What do we mean when we use the phrase "knowing God"? Is it an emotion, an intellectual experience?
 - A. There seems to be a great difference between knowing *about* God and knowing Him on a deeply personal level -- knowing His Personality and His ways. There is also a difference between God's ways and His acts. Many people see and experience His acts (miracles, etc.), but He desires for us to know His ways and His Personality. (Matthew 7:20-23)



The knowledge of God is more essential for the Christian than anything else. It was the prayer of Jesus in John 17:3 *...Now this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.* We will experience God only in proportion to our knowledge of Him.

- Jeremiah 9:23-24 *This is what the LORD says: "...let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight..."* (Philippians 3:1-16)
 - B. To the Greeks, to know something meant you understood it in your mind. It was an academic process. In contrast, for a Hebrew person to know something meant that he or she experienced it.
 - Psalm 103:7 *He made known His ways (course of life, motivation) to Moses, His acts (exploits) to the children of Israel.*
 - C. To know God we must first believe that God is real and that He lovingly invites us to know Him intimately.
 - John 3:3-9, 16 *...unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*
 - Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*
2. It was Paul's great goal in life to "know Him" in Philippians 3:10...
- A. What did Paul do in order to know Christ? (Verses 7-8, 13-14)
 - B. Describe Paul's attitude in this portion of Scripture.
 - C. What are you willing to let go of to have that same intimate relationship with God?
3. **Read the Seven Realities of Knowing God.**

GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

1. His **ABSOLUTE** Attributes, those characteristics only He possesses. God is...
 - A. Self Existent — He is Jehovah, the absolute Source of all life and the Eternal Living God. God is not dependent on anything outside of Himself. He is Self-Existent! (Exodus 3:13-15; John 5:26; Colossians 1:15-17)
 - B. Eternal — God has always existed and will forever exist. He is outside time as we know it. (Exodus 3:13-15; Psalm 90:2; John 8:58; 1 Timothy 1:17)
 - C. Immutable — He does not change. (1 Kings 8:56; Malachi 3:6; James 1:17; Hebrews 13:8)
 - D. Omnipresent — He is everywhere at the same time. God is present in all time and space,

He is everywhere and in every moment, past, present and future. (Jeremiah 23:23-24; Psalm 139:1-12; Matthew 28:20; Colossians 1:17)

- E. Omniscient — God knows all things and has all knowledge. As Creator of the heavens and the earth, He knows all things because He created all things, visible or invisible. (Psalm 139:1-4, 16; Acts 5:1-11; Ephesians 3:9-11; Colossians 1:16)
 - F. Omnipotent — He is all-Powerful. As with the attributes of Omniscience and Omnipresence, it follows that, if God is Infinite, and if He is Sovereign, then He is also Omnipotent. He has all power over all things at all times and in all ways. (Jeremiah 32:17, 27; Isaiah 40:15; Daniel 4:35; Matthew 19:26)
 - G. Sovereign — He is the Supreme Authority over all of creation. (Malachi 1:6; Romans 10-11; Ephesians 1:4-5; Colossians 1:15-18)
 - Calvinism and Arminianism are two systems of THEOLOGY that attempt to explain the relationship between God's sovereignty and man's responsibility concerning salvation. One view holds that God elects or chooses individuals for salvation based entirely on His will, not the worthiness or unworthiness of the individual. The other states that God elects individuals to salvation based on His fore-knowledge.
2. His **MORAL** Attributes are those He shares with us to a limited degree, and which deal with character and conduct. God is...
- A. Holy (Leviticus 11:44-45; Isaiah 6:1-5) — Both the Hebrew (Qadosh) and Greek (Hagios) define Holy as that which belongs to and is reserved for God and anything that pertains to Him, pure, free from defilement or contamination of sin, and worthy of God.
 - In the New Testament the quality of Holiness emphasizes the inward purity and separation from the world. (2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Hebrews 12:10-11)
 - B. Righteous (Genesis 18:25; Deuteronomy 32:4; Romans 3:25-26) — The Hebrew word is "Tsedek," meaning Rightness, Straightness, Justice of a judge and a King. God is Right in punishing the wicked, avenging, delivering, or rewarding the righteous.
 - C. Love (1 John 4:8-11, 16) — In Exodus 34:6-7 we see that God's Attributes can be summed up in Holiness and Love. In Deuteronomy 7:6-8 God expresses His love based upon His Covenant with Israel.
 - D. God is Truth (John 1:14, 14:6; Titus 1:2) — His Word is the true (truthful) revelation of His Nature, His will for mankind, and His plan of salvation. (Psalm 119:89; John 17:17) Because God is True, He is faithful to keep all His promises. (Numbers 23:19-20; Joshua 23:14)

THE NAMES OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 3:13-15 *God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, The LORD, the God of your fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has sent me to you. This is My Name forever, the Name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation."*

In the Bible God reveals Himself through His Names. In the Old Testament and parts of the New Testament, names were more than just a name or a title. Instead, it revealed something about the individual's character or purpose. In Genesis 17:1-22 we read about Abram and Sarai's name change to Abraham (Father of many nations) and Sarah (Mother of nations). This is also clear in Genesis 32:22-32 when Jacob's name was changed to Israel.



Knowing God's Names is also our refuge and place of safety. Proverbs 18:10 *The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe (they are set on high).*

Here are many of God's Names in the Old Testament...

1. Elohim God, our Mighty Creator, Covenant God (Throughout Genesis 1 and the Old Testament).
2. EL Shaddai The Mighty God. (Genesis 17:1-2 and throughout the Old Testament)
3. Adonai The Lord our Master. (Genesis 15:1-8; Daniel 9:3-19; Malachi 1:6)
4. EL Elyon The Supreme, Most High God. (Genesis 14:22; Daniel 4:34-35)
5. EL Olam The Everlasting, Eternal God. (Genesis 21:33)
6. JEHOVAH LORD, the Self-Existent, Righteous and Loving God throughout the Old Testament. (Exodus 6:2-3)
7. JEHOVAH - Jireh The LORD our Seeing Provider. (Genesis 22:1-9)
8. JEHOVAH - Rophe The LORD our Healer. (Exodus 15:22-27)
9. JEHOVAH - Nissi The LORD our Banner. (Exodus 17:8-16)
10. JEHOVAH - Sabaoth The LORD of Hosts. (1 Samuel 17:45; Haggai 2:4-9, 23)
11. JEHOVAH - M'Kaddesh The LORD our Sanctifier. (Leviticus 20:8)
12. JEHOVAH - Shalom The LORD our Peace. (Judges 6:1-24)
13. JEHOVAH - Tsidkenu The LORD our Righteousness. (Jeremiah 23:5-6)
14. JEHOVAH - Rohi The LORD our Shepherd. (Psalm 23)
15. JEHOVAH - Shammah The LORD is There. (Ezekiel 48:35)

PRAYING THE NAMES OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Matthew 6:9 *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name...*

1. **Forgiveness** of sin and deliverance from its dominion.
 - A. Jehovah - Tsidkenu, the Lord our Righteousness. (Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:5-10; Romans

5:17; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Colossians 1:13-14)

- B. Jehovah - M'Kaddesh, the Lord who Sanctifies us. (John 17:17-18; Romans 6:17-18; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 Peter 1:13-16)



- 2. Abundant **provision** of Eternal Life, healing and the temporal things we need.

- A. Jehovah - Jireh, the Lord who Provides. (Genesis 22:1-9)
- B. Jehovah - Rophe, the Lord who Heals. (Exodus 15:22-27; Matthew 4:24; Luke 4:40)
- C. El-Shadai, the Lord who sustains and nourishes. (Genesis 17:1-2)

- 3. Fullness of the **Spirit**.

- A. Jehovah-Shalom, the Lord Our Peace. *Peace with God*. (Romans 5:1-8). *The Peace of God*. (John 14:27, 16:33; Philippians 4:6-7). *The God of Peace*. (Romans 16:20; Philippians 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Hebrews 14:20)
- B. Jehovah-Shammah, The Lord Who Is There. (Deuteronomy 31:6, 8; Joshua 1:5; Romans 8:10-11, 38-39)

- 4. **Victory** over all things!

- A. Jehovah - Nissi, The Lord Our Banner. (Exodus 17:8-16)
- B. Jehovah - Rohi, The Lord Our Shepherd. (Psalm 23)

“In the last analysis, what matters supremely, is not, the fact that I know God, but the larger fact which underlies it — the fact that he knows me. I am graven on the palms of his hands (Isaiah 49:16). I am never out of his mind... I know him because he first knew me, and continues to know me. He knows me as a friend, one who loves me; and there is no moment when his eye is off me, or his attention distracted from me, and no moment, therefore, when his care falters...” — *J.I. Packer*



THE FOUR-FOLD MINISTRY OF CHRIST

Ezekiel 1:10 *As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man (Luke); each of the four had the face of a lion (Matthew) on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox (Mark) on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle (John).*

Hebrews 1:1-3 *The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. (Colossians 1:15)*

We can see in the Bible the four ministries of Jesus Christ as our Savior, our Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, our Healer and our soon coming King.

1. **Jesus Christ is our SAVIOR** (Cross)

- A. Isaiah 53:4-6 *Surely He took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered Him punished by God, stricken by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.* (Romans 1:3-4; Hebrews 7:25)
- B. Man's need — Romans 5:12 *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned...*
- C. God's provision through Jesus Christ — John 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.* (2 Corinthians 5:21)

2. **Jesus Christ is our HOLY SPIRIT BAPTIZER** (Dove)

- A. Acts 1:5, 8 *For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit... you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* (John 14:16-17; Acts 2:4, 8:17, 10:44-46)
- B. The Person - The Holy Spirit is a Member of the Godhead, or Trinity — Matthew 3:16-17 *As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."* (See also Genesis 1:26; 3:22; Isaiah 6:3)
- C. The Comforter or Counselor - This comes from the Greek word "parakletos," which means one called alongside to help." John 14:16 *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever...*
- D. The Teacher - The Holy Spirit is also referred to as One who teaches. John 14:26 *...the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

3. **Jesus Christ is our HEALER** (Cup)

- A. Matthew 8:16-17 *When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."* (Isaiah 53:4; Matthew 9:5-6; Luke 4:18-19; Acts 4:29-30)
- B. How to pray for Divine healing from James 5:13-18.
 - We are to lay our hands on the sick. (Mark 16:18)
 - We are to call for the elders (whose prayer life is marked with answers from God) and

be anointed with oil in the Name of the Lord.

- We are to pray for one another, confessing sins to each other so that we may be healed.
- The Lord has promised that if we, personally, ask anything according to His Name, He will do it. Are we sick? Pray!

4. **Jesus Christ is our Soon-Coming KING** (Crown)

- A. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout... the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.* (Matthew 24:29-31; Revelation 19:11-16)
- B. His coming was predicted by the prophets. (Isaiah 9:6; 53:1-12)
- C. His coming was promised by Jesus Himself. (John 14:3)
- D. His coming was proclaimed by the Angels. (Acts 1:11)
- E. His coming was promised by the Apostles. (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17)
- F. His coming will be personal. (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- G. His coming will be physical, in a glorified body. (Acts 1:11)
- H. His coming will be visible. (Revelation 1:7)
- I. His coming will be sudden. (Matthew 24:36-39; 25:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3; Revelation 3:3).
- J. His coming will be triumphant. (Matthew 24:30-31; 1 Thessalonians 4:16)



Scan the QR code to read an expanded version of the Fourfold Ministry of Christ on DiscipleshipDevelopment.org, or **click here**.



WEEKLY ACTIVITY SHEET Ephesians 5:16 *...redeeming the time...*

1. Name _____ Date _____

2. My accountability partners are _____

3. Journal and write the memory verse from memory before class.

4. Assignment

- Read the assigned lesson and/or book.
- Special assignments.
- Use the Weekly Time Sheet.
- Meet with your accountability group.

Check  each box below as you do the activity for that day.

ACTIVITIES	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Personal Prayer Time							
Bible Reading							
Lesson Reading							
Fasting							
Scripture Memorization							
Journaling							
Sunday AM							
Accountability Meeting							
Volunteer Service (specify below)							