

## **"I Don't Really Know Him"**

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed **at work in you who believe.**"

- 1 Thessalonians 2:13: NIV

They claim to **know God**, but by their actions they **deny him**. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good. - Titus 1:16 NIV

### **SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE IN GOD...**

#### **1. But Don't Really \_\_\_\_\_ Him.**

You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the **demons believe that**—and shudder. - James 2:19 NIV

We know that we have come to know [God] if we **keep his commands**. Whoever says, "**I know him**," but does not **do what he commands is a liar**, and the truth is not in that person. - 1 John 2:3-4 NIV

"**Not everyone** who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one **who does the will of my Father** who is in heaven. **Many** will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, '**I never knew you**. Away from me, you evildoers!'" - Matthew 7:21-22 NIV

#### **2. But Don't Really Know Him \_\_\_\_\_.**

Formerly, when you did not **know God**, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you **know God**—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are **turning back** to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? - Galatians 4:8-9 NIV

#### **3. And Know Him \_\_\_\_\_ And \_\_\_\_\_ Him Wholeheartedly.**

"You, God, are my God, **earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you**, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and **beheld your power** and your glory. Because **your love is better than life**, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you **as long as I live**, and in your name I will lift up my hands." - Psalm 63:1-4 NIV

"Those who **know your name trust in you**, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you." - Psalm 9:10 NIV

I **keep asking** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, **so that** you may **know him better**. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may **know the hope to which he has called you**, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power **for us who believe**. - Ephesians 1:17-19 NIV

**BAPTISM SUNDAY, NEXT WEEK, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
*following each service*

### **DISCUSSION GUIDE**

- Who is someone famous you know almost everything about, but don't really know them?
- Do you know God like Greg knows Denise, or like Greg knows Donny Osmond?
- On a scale of 1-10 (1 is "all talk" & 10 is "all walk"), how much do you live like God exists?
- If you had to put it into categories, what parts of your faith are cultural tradition and what parts come from closeness to God?
- Where does your faith land—Don't really know him; know him but not well; or, know him intimately and serve him wholeheartedly? Explain.
- Has the Holy Spirit ever prodded you, comforted you, or strengthened you? Share a story.
- What do you most often call God—and how often do you talk with him? How does this define your relationship with him?