

Session #5 You Can Know God, In A Very Real Relationship!

Gold * Revelation 3:20 (NLT) ²⁰“Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.”

Gold * Matthew 28:18–20 (NLT) ¹⁸Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Gold * Psalm 23 (NLT) *A psalm of David.* ¹The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that I need. ²He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. ³He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. ⁴Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. ⁵You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. ⁶Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

Gold * Galatians 4:4–7 (NLT) ⁴But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. ⁵God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. ⁶And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

Matthew 11:28–29 (NLT) ²⁸Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Why Would God Want A Relationship With Me? We are His focal point, His creation, and He knows us individually!

Luke 15:1–2; 11–24 (NLT) Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. ²This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them!

Luke 15:11–24 (NLT) *Parable of the Lost Son* ¹¹To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons. ¹²The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. ¹³“A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. ¹⁴About the

time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. ¹⁵ He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger!’ ¹⁸ I will go home to my father and say, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.’” ²⁰ “So he returned home to his father. **And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.** ²¹ His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.’” ²² **“But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet.’** ²³ And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.’ So the party began.

Romans 5:8 (NLT) ⁸ But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Romans 8:38 (NLT) ³⁸ And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love.

Zephaniah 3:17 (NLT) ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.”

[Foundation Scriptures Showing Your Part of The Relationship](#)

Gold * **James 4:8a (NLT)** ⁸ **Come close** to God, and God will come close to you.

Gold * **Deuteronomy 4:29 (NLT)** ²⁹ But from there you will **search** again for the Lord your God. And if you search for him with all your heart and soul, you will find him.

Gold * **John 15:3–4 (NLT)** ³ **You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you.** ⁴ **Remain in me**, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

[7 Practical Ways To Have An Exciting, Real, Life-Giving Relationship With God:](#)

1. Stay Humble Before God (Surrender or Yield Your Life)

James 4:6–8 (NLT) ⁶ And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you.

Pride acts as a barrier, causing spiritual and emotional deafness by hardening the heart against truth, correction, and wisdom

2. Spend Time Praying

Spend time thanking God first, then talking to God, asking, and listening to God

Jeremiah 29:11–14a (NLT) ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² In those days when you pray, I will listen. ¹³ If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,” says the Lord. .

Philippians 4:6–7 (NLT) ⁶ Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NLT) ¹⁷ Never stop praying.

3. Listen To & Know God’s Word

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT) ¹² For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

4. Really Worship

Praise and worship are integral to a relationship with God, serving as expressions of love, gratitude, and recognition of His sovereignty, often described as a "sacrifice" or "reasonable service".

Hebrews 4:16 (NLT) ¹⁶ So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Psalms 100:1–4 (NLT) ¹ Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! ² Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. ³ Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name.

John 4:23–24 (NLT) ²³ But the time is coming—indeed it’s here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. ²⁴ For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”

Psalms 95:6 (NLT) ⁶ Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker,

5. **Accept The Lord's Assignment** – Did you know that when you accept the mission God gives you, you will need His help and power to complete the mission. Through that need being met by God, you build a relationship with Him because you are in need, and He is for people you serve.

Luke 10:1–12 (NLT) *Jesus Sends Out His Disciples*

6. **Welcome The Holy Spirit** -The Holy Spirit actively desires an intimate, personal relationship with believers, acting as a guide, comforter, and friend rather than just a force or power. This relationship involves two-way communication, inviting believers to seek Him through prayer and scripture to experience His presence, guidance, and spiritual fruits, and spiritual gifts.

Key Aspects of Relationship with the Holy Spirit

- **A Personal Being:** The Holy Spirit has a personality—mind, will, and emotions—and longs for connection.
- **Indwelling Presence:** He lives within believers to lead them toward Christ, offering wisdom and comfort.
- **Cultivating Intimacy:** Developing this relationship requires talking to Him, acknowledging His presence, and relying on Him for daily guidance.
- **The Goal of Fellowship:** The Holy Spirit seeks to fellowship with believers, revealing the deep things of God and guiding them into truth.

John 16:13 (NLT) ¹³ **When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.**

7. **Connect With Christians** – Do you know why God gives ministry gifts? He wants people to minister. He wants His ministry to go through people to people. So if we cut relationships of spiritually gifted people, we cut God's ministry, we cut part of the ways God wants to have relationship with our life.

1 Corinthians 12:4–11 (NLT) ⁴There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. ⁶God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

⁷A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. ⁸To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. ⁹The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. ¹⁰He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said.

¹¹It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

- ⇒ God is real, alive, and in control
- ⇒ God knows all about you
- ⇒ God wants to have a relationship with you
- ⇒ God wants you to connect in relationship with Him through people, the power of the Holy Spirit, acceptance of your assignment, praise, the word, prayer, and sincere humility!

God speaking in different ways through the combination of all those connections is powerful!