

God Is Always Pursuing You

God is always pursuing a love relationship with you that is real, personal, and practical. Knowing God personally is the foundation for every other relationship in our lives.

Ever search the house for hours to locate the sunglasses that are on your head? Or the keys in your pocket? I think that's how we often approach the idea of *knowing God* and *doing God's will*.

We love to complicate things. We have built a thousand religions to help us figure out how to approach God, how to pursue him, how to please him.

But God's view of life is simple. You need to know three things, and everything else can flow out of them.

1. Know that God loves you.

Jeremiah 31:3 NLT

Long ago the LORD said to Israel: "I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself."

John 3:16 CEV

God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die.

Daily, **receive** and **accept** his love!

Ephesians 3:18-19 NLT

And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

2. Love God back.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 NLT

*Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! **You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life.***

It isn't just that you **SHOULD** love God back, it's that you **CAN** love him back, because...

1 John 4:19 MSG

We, though, are going to love—love and be loved. First we were loved, now we love. He loved us first.

3. Love others like God does.

When Jesus quoted this Old Testament passage, he coupled it together with another great commandment.

Matthew 22:37-40 NLT

Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

It's time to get caught!