

EXPERIENCING GOD



“Knowing and Doing
the Will of God”

SERIES BEGINS



Why Experiencing God?

Jesus said, “This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent” (Jn 17:3). The essence of eternal life is for you to know God and to know Jesus Christ, whom He has sent. Knowing God does not come through a program, a teaching, or a method. Real Christianity is not merely a religion; it is a relationship with a Person. It is an intimate relationship with God. Through this relationship God reveals His will and invites you to join Him where He is at work. When you body, God accomplishes through you something only He can do. Then you come to know God in a more intimate way by experiencing Him at work through your life.

Through this study we want to help you move into a deeper relationship with God where you experience eternal life to the fullest right here and now. Jesus said in John 10:10 “I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.” You can experience a better life if you are willing to respond to God’s invitation to an intimate love relationship with Him.

Major Themes in this Study

- 1. God is always at work around you.**
- 2. God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.**
- 3. God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.**
- 4. God speaks by the HOly Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.**
- 5. God’s invitation for you to work with HIm always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.**
- 6. You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what He is doing.**
- 7. You come to know God by experience as you obey Him, and He accomplishes His work through you.**

Week 12 - *Religion vs. Relationship*

Main Idea: When we are in a real relationship with someone we don't walk away from it. We stay committed and our relationship will continue to grow. When relationships stop growing, or are neglected, they become stagnant. As we reflect on our relationship with God and the experiences that we have had with Him through this study, may we stay committed to growing, changing, and becoming more like Him.

Intro: Go to Matthew 5-8 and read the headings of the sections. This will give context to the passage we will be reading. Read Matthew 7:24-27

1. What “words” is Jesus talking about in v. 24? How important is the foundation of a home? Identify the two men in this passage. What is common to both? What are the two outcomes? Why does one stand and one fall? How would you define “rock”? The “sand”?
2. Read Acts 4: 11-12. How are the foundation and the cornerstone connected?
*Take time to google the value of the cornerstone.
3. What are the differences between being religious and being in a relationship with God? What are the dangers of building your faith upon the “church” and not on Christ?
4. What have you learned about your relationship with God through this Study?
5. How has your relationship with God influenced your other relationships?

Next Steps Question:

What are your plans to continue growing in your relationship with God?