

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 10 - *One Body One Church*

Main Idea: The body is made up of many parts. Each part has a specialized role to play for the health of the body. The same is true of the church; there are many members, each with a unique gifting, and when used for the common good in unity, fulfill the mission of the gospel.

Intro: Read Ephesians 4: 1-16.

1. Focus on v. 1-2. How does the way you live reflect your spiritual health? How does your own spiritual health impact the body of believers?
2. In v. 3-6, we read that God wants His people to display unity. What unites believers? What are some causes of disunity? What preserves unity in the church?
3. In v. 7-11 we read that all believers are given a special gifting. Why are there different gifts? In what ways has God gifted you? Do you struggle comparing your gift to some else's?
4. How does your gifting add value to the body of the church? What suffers if we don't use our gift? How does your gifting go beyond the walls of the church? (Look at v. 12-13)
5. Read v. 14-16. What allows the body to grow and to become stronger? What benefits will the church experience by being healthy, unified, and connected to Christ? Where are you being challenged in your own relationship with Jesus?

Next Steps Question:

We want to help you identify your spiritual gifting. Take the spiritual gift survey by clicking on the link. <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/> Group leaders can send you the link.