

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 obey, 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 4 - *Faith and Obedience*

**Main Idea:** Intimacy in a relationship can thrive when both parties stay within the guard rails and rules established. We find that marriages thrive when the husband and wife stay faithful to one another and commit themselves to a set standard. In the same way our relationship with God and how we experience Him can be impacted by our obedience to Him and His Commands. Obedience builds intimacy!

### **Intro:**

**Did you have rules growing up? Did you understand them/like them? What was your least favorite rule? As an adult, how has your perspective changed on those rules?**

1. What is the root of disobedience? What are the benefits of obedience? What are the consequences of disobedience?
2. Do the rewards and consequences impact our decision making? Are we driven by the short term or long-term results of our decision? If we immediately felt the impact of the consequences for disobeying God, would that change our choices?
3. Why does God allow us to disobey? Why does He not automatically “Bust our Butt”? \*God’s grace, compassion, and mercy are overwhelming!
4. How do we know God’s commands? Read Matt. 22: 37-40. Once we know God’s commands what are we called to do?
5. Does ignorance excuse us from obeying? Does knowing hold us accountable to obeying?

### **Next Steps Question:**

Maybe the reason you are not experiencing Intimacy is because you are not obeying. We cannot obediently follow on our own will and strength. The Holy Spirit is our teacher and reminder. Take time this week to pray that God would open your eyes to things and ways you are disobeying.