

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 1 - *God's Will and Your Life*

Main Idea: The God of the universe wants a relationship with you and is inviting us to be a part of His great will.

Intro:

Have you ever experienced a sunrise or a sunset? Where is the best place to experience a sunset or sunrise in our region? What is the difference between knowing about a sunset and experiencing a sunset?

1. Is there a difference between knowing about God and experiencing God? How do you know that God is real? How have you experienced God throughout your life?
2. In what ways have you seen God work in your life or in the life of someone else?
3. God is working all around us. He invites us to join him. If you knew that there was something God was inviting you to do, would you do it? What prevents us from joining God?
4. Have you ever asked God "what is your purpose/will for **my** life?" How does this question differ from "God what is **your** will?"
5. Read John 5: 17, 19-20. Was Jesus doing his own work or was God the Father doing His work through Jesus? How does this relate to the work you are doing in your life?

Next Steps Question:

God allows us to experience Him moment by moment. There are many ways that we can experience God. They include reading the bible, praying, listening to a song, taking a walk, sitting in the quiet, talking to a stranger, serving, among many other things. As we become more familiar with Him he opens our eyes to see where and how He is working. What is one thing God wants you to do in response to this week's study?