

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 11 - *The Vertical and Horizontal*

Main Idea: Our vertical connection with God, will influence the horizontal connections that we have in our other relationships. Our horizontal connections will be a reflection of the vertical connection we have with God.

Intro: Read 1 John 1: 1-10

1. What are some words in verses 1-3 indicating that John had a personal, dynamic relationship with the living Lord Jesus Christ?
2. Why did John write about what he had seen and heard of Jesus? If you were writing, what would you share about your experience with God?
3. John writes that their joy has been made complete, through the sharing of their relationship and experience with God. How does sharing make our “joy complete”?
4. What is indicated when a person says he has fellowship with God, but walks in sin and darkness? What is the litmus test for a believer to judge their fellowship with God? *Litmus tests will tell you the pH, that will determine its reaction with other substances.
5. What two things are true of a person who walks in the light as God is in the light? When we step out of the light, how do we restore that fellowship? Why do we struggle with confession? How is confession both vertical and horizontal?

Next Steps Question:

Take time to pray, asking God to reveal the truth to you about your fellowship (love relationship) with Him and with you Christian brothers and sisters. What do you sense God is saying about your fellowship with other Christians? What do you sense God is saying about your fellowship with Him?