

The True Nature of God Session 8 – Getting the Mind of God

I. Review

A. Session 1 – Knowing God vs Knowing About God

B. Session 2 – God’s Nature of Goodness

C. Session 3 – The Nature of God Revealed in Jesus

D. Session 4 – Old Testament/New Testament Differences

E. Session 5 – The Good Shepherd

F. Session 6 – The Good Father

G. Session 7 – The Good King

II. Getting the Mind of God

A. Can we know the Mind of God?

1. **Religious tradition says no.**
 - a. You never know what God might do.
 - b. This type of religious tradition takes many scriptures out of context.
2. **There are some things that God has chosen not to reveal.**
 - a. Example – *The day and hour of the coming of the Lord.*
 - b. There are some things in life we cannot explain.
3. **There are many things God’s desires to reveal to us.**
 - a. He provided the revelation of Himself through His Word.
 - b. He provided revelation and guidance through the Holy Spirit.
 - c. God doesn’t want us to be in the dark concerning Himself.

4. **If we believe that we cannot know the mind of God, we leave an open door for the enemy's deception.**
 - a. Deception into believing God is behind things that He isn't.
 - b. Deception into believing that God is working against us.
 - c. Deception pertaining to the things that God says belong to us.
 - d. **Hosea 4:6a (NKJV)** – *My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge.*

B. Scriptures to Consider.

1. **1 Corinthians 2:9-16 (HCSB)** – *⁹But as it is written: What eye did not see and hear did not hear, and what never entered the human mind—God prepared this for those who love Him. ¹⁰Now God has revealed these things to us by the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man that is in him? In the same way, no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given to us by God. ¹³We also speak these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual things to spiritual people. ¹⁴But the unbeliever does not welcome what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually. ¹⁵The spiritual person, however, can evaluate everything, yet he himself cannot be evaluated by anyone. ¹⁶For who has known the Lord's mind, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.*
 - a. **Mind** = a particular mode of thinking – thoughts, feelings, purposes, desires. *We can know His way of thinking, including his thoughts, feelings, purposes and desires.*
 - b. The phrase, “Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man the things that God has prepared for them”, is often misused to declare that we cannot know the things of God. TAKE NOTE: Always read the entire passage!

- c. According to this passage of scripture, WE CAN KNOW the things of God. It is the unsaved person whose spirit is not alive to the things of God that remains in the dark.
 - d. **1 Corinthians 2:16 (AMP)** – *For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND and PURPOSES OF THE LORD, SO AS TO INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ [to be guided by His thoughts and purposes].*
2. **Isaiah 55:6-13 (HCSB)** – *⁶Seek the LORD while He may be found; call to Him while He is near. ⁷Let the wicked one abandon his way and the sinful one his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, so He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will freely forgive. ⁸“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not My ways.” This is the LORD’s declaration. ⁹“For as heaven is higher than earth, so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰For just as rain and snow fall from heaven and do not return there without saturating the earth and making it germinate and sprout, and providing seed to sow and food to eat, ¹¹so My word that comes from My mouth will not return to Me empty, but it will accomplish what I please and will prosper in what I send it to do.” ¹²You will indeed go out with joy and be peacefully guided; the mountains and the hills will break into singing before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thornbush, a cypress will come up, and instead of the brier, a myrtle will come up; it will make a name for Yahweh as an everlasting sign that will not be destroyed.*
- a. In this passage, WHO is being addressed as the one needing to forsake their thoughts and wicked ways? SINNERS
 - b. The Unsaved (Sinners) do not know or understand the thoughts and ways of God.
 - c. The Lord’s thoughts and ways are higher than those of the unsaved.
 - d. The Lord sends His Word so those who receive it (The Saved) can know His thoughts and ways.
 - e. Notice the change that takes place when a person allows the Word of God to change his thoughts and ways.
 - f. Verse 13 is the harvest that comes when we align our thoughts with His thoughts and our ways with His ways.

C. Getting the Mind of God (His thoughts, feelings and ways)

1. David was a man after God's own heart.

1 Samuel 13:14 (KJV) – *But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.*

Acts 13:22 (KJV) – *And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave their testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.*

After my own heart = One who is in pursuit of my thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purpose and endeavors.
One who values my heart – my thoughts and ways.

2. David sought to understand the Lord.

- a. David was known for inquiring of the Lord.
- b. Scriptures for consideration

1 Kings 9:4-5 (NLT) – ⁴*“As for you, if you will follow me with integrity and godliness, as David your father did, obeying all my commands, decrees, and regulations, ⁵then I will establish the throne of your dynasty over Israel forever. For I made this promise to your father, David: ‘One of your descendants will always sit on the throne of Israel.*

Psalms 119:10-16 (NIV) – ¹⁰*I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. ¹¹I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. ¹²Praise be to you, LORD; teach me your decrees. ¹³With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. ¹⁴I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. ¹⁵I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. ¹⁶I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.*

Notice – vs 15 – As he meditates upon the Lord’s word, He is considering the Lord’s ways.

Psalms 119:125-128 (NKJV) – ¹²⁵*I am Your servant; give me understanding, that I may know Your testimonies.* ¹²⁶*It is time for You to act, O LORD, for they have regarded Your law as void.* ¹²⁷*Therefore I love Your commandments more than gold, yes, than fine gold!* ¹²⁸*Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way.*

Note: David said, your precepts concerning all things, I consider to be right.

As you meditate upon His word, your thoughts can become like his thoughts toward ALL THINGS.

3. **Spending time in the Word of God will reveal His Mind/Thoughts to me.**
4. **As I spend time in the Word, I must allow His mind/thoughts to transform my mind/thoughts.**
5. **Like David, I choose to consider his Word right concerning all things.**
6. **How I think regarding every issue of life is influenced completely by how God thinks.**
 - a. Sin
 - b. Decisions
 - c. Family life – Marriage and Children
 - d. Business/Career life
 - e. Church life
 - f. Doctrine – salvation, forgiveness, redemption, righteousness, healing, deliverance, prosperity, etc.
7. **My victory is connected to having the mind of God.**