

Experiencing God

December 28, 2025

Big Idea: God desires we have a relationship with Him that is real and personal.

1. God is always at work.

- *John 5:17.* In his defense Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.”
- *1st Peter 2:4-5.* As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- *John 6:44.* “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

2. God’s will is that none perish but everyone come to repentance.

- *2nd Peter 3:9.* The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- *Matthew 26:39.* Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

3. God’s way of bringing people into His family is through faith in His Son Jesus.

- *John 3:16.* For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- *1 Corinthians 15:3-4.* For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures....
- *John 14:6.* Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

4. God’s plan is to work in and through the life of the believer to accomplish His will.

- *John 15:5.* “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”
- *John 15:19-20.* Jesus gave them this answer: “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed.

5. God speaks through His word, the church, prayer, and circumstances.

6. God’s expectation: Believe what He tells us, adjust our lives, and join Him in His work.

Pastor’s Challenge: Make 2026 a year of deepening your relationship with God!