

What's Next? Part 1  
Know God  
08/25/2019

- What's Next
- Know God
- You can know God personally!
- It's easy to get distracted and forget why we're here!
- GRACE Grow - Reach - Act - Connect - Exalt
- Know God
- Find Freedom
- Discover Purpose
- Make a Difference

*Jude 1:1-2 (TLB) Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ, and a brother of James. To: Christians everywhere—beloved of God and chosen by him. 2 May you be given more and more of God's kindness, peace, and love.*

*Eph. 1:4-5 (NLT) "Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure."*

*John 17:3 (ESV) And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

**What's Next:**

1st) To **KNOW** God.

*John 17:3 (ESV) And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

*Eph. 2:8-9 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.*

**How to know God?**

A) Pray - Jesus I've heard a lot about you but I don't know you. I want to know you **PERSONALLY!**

B) Allow God's **GRACE** to cover you!

*Eph.1:4-7 (ESV) even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,*

- God's Grace is shown in His love for us.
- Your number one purpose in life is not to accomplish something
- Your number one purpose in life is not to make something of yourself
- Your number one purpose in life is not to make a lot of money and be famous and have a lot of fun.
- Your number one purpose in life is to Know God

2nd) To **EXPERIENCE** God.

*Jude 1:1-2 (TLB) Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ, and a brother of James. To: Christians everywhere—beloved of God and chosen by him. May you be given more and more of God's kindness, peace, and love.*

- *May you be given more and more of God's kindness, peace, and love.*
- We see this kindness, joy and peace in Jesus only
- If you want to know what God is like look at Jesus

*Matthew 17:8 (ESV) And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.*

- Jesus only is the end of self improvement
- Jesus only is the end of self salvation
- Jesus only is the end of self belief
- Jesus only is the end of our pursuit of godless idols

### **Life Changing Benefits of Knowing God:**

A) I feel **ACCEPTED** rather than ashamed.

- *The sins we can't forget, God doesn't remember*

*Hebrews 8:12 (NIV) I will show loving-kindness to them and forgive their sins. I will remember their sins no more."*

*Romans 8:1 (NIV) Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

*Romans 5:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

B) I Can **RUN** to God not from Him.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NIV) Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

C) I have **PEACE** in pain I don't understand.

- When you meet Jesus everything changes
- Your desires change
- The way you look at the world changes
- You see struggles and pain from a different perspective
- You don't have to understand them to be at peace
- An explanation doesn't give you peace.
- You need presence.
- The presence of God in your life.

*Philippians 4:7 (ESV) And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

D) I gain the **COURAGE** to take risks.

*Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,*