

God hide's  
inside in you.

Find God - What does it take to know  
God?



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# **1 Knowing God Personally**

## **1.1 Find God - What does it take to know God? This will explain how you can personally begin a relationship with God, right now.**

**What does it take to begin a relationship with God?** Wait for a spiritual experience? Devote yourself to unselfish religious deeds? Become a better person so that God will accept you? NONE of these. God has made it very clear in the Bible how we can know Him. This will explain how you can personally begin a relationship with God, right now...

Principle One: God loves you and offers a wonderful plan for your life.

God created you. Not only that, he loves you so much that he wants you to know him now

and spend eternity with him. Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."<sup>1</sup>

Jesus came so that each of us could know and understand God in a personal way. Jesus alone can bring meaning and purpose to life.

*What keeps us from knowing God? ...*

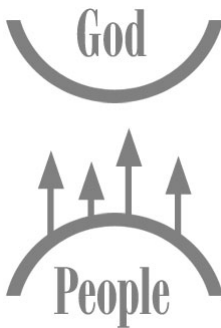
Principle Two: All of us sin and our sin has separated us from God.

We sense that separation, that distance from God because of our sin. The Bible tells us that "All of us like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to his own way."<sup>2</sup>

Deep down, our attitude may be one of active rebellion or passive indifference toward God and his ways, but it's all evidence of what the Bible calls sin.

The result of sin in our lives is death -- spiritual separation from God.<sup>3</sup> Although we

may try to get close to God through our own effort, we inevitably fail.



There is a distance, a gap between us and God. The arrows show our efforts to reach God...doing good for others, religious rituals, trying to be a good person, etc. But the problem is that none of these good efforts actually cover up our sin

or remove it.

Our sin is known by God and stands as a barrier between us and God. Further, the Bible says that the penalty for sin is death. We would be eternally separated from God.

Except...for what God did for us.

*So, how can we have a relationship with God? ...*

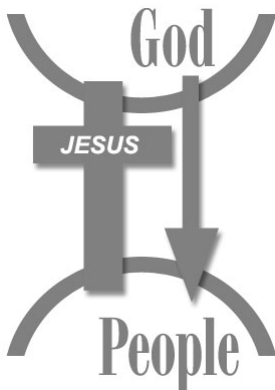
Principle Three: Jesus Christ paid the penalty for our sin for us. He now offers us

complete forgiveness and a close relationship with him.

Jesus Christ took all of our sins, suffered and paid for them with his life on the cross. Jesus died for us, in our place. He did this out of his tremendous love for us.

“...he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.”<sup>4</sup> Because of Jesus’ death on the cross, our sin doesn’t have to separate us from God any longer.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”<sup>5</sup>



Jesus not only died for our sin, but after this death on the cross, he physically came back to life three days later, just as he said he would.

This was final proof that everything Jesus said about himself was



true. To know him was to know God; to love him was to love God. “I and the Father are one.”<sup>6</sup>

Jesus said he could answer prayer, forgive sin, judge the world, give us eternal life. His countless miracles supported his words.

Jesus was clear, “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one can come to the Father except through me.”<sup>7</sup>

Instead of trying to reach God, he tells us how we can begin a relationship with him right now. Jesus says, “Come to me.” “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink...out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”<sup>8</sup>

It was Jesus’ love for us that caused him to endure the cross. And he now invites us to come to him, that we might begin a personal relationship with God.

*Just knowing what Jesus has done for us and what he is offering us is not enough. To have a relationship with God, we need to welcome him into our life...*

Principle Four: We must individually accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

The Bible says, “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”<sup>9</sup>

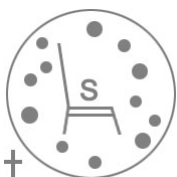
We accept Jesus by faith. The Bible says, “God saved you by his special favour when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”<sup>10</sup>

Accepting Jesus means believing that Jesus is the Son of God, then inviting him to guide and direct our lives.<sup>11</sup> Jesus said, “I came that you might have life, and have it more abundantly.”<sup>12</sup>

And here is Jesus’ invitation. He said, “I’m standing at the door and I’m knocking. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in.”<sup>13</sup>

How will you respond to God’s invitation?

Consider these two circles:



†  
**Self-Directed  
Life**

S Self is on the throne

† Jesus is outside the life

- Separated from God, life can often result in discord and frustration



**Christ-Directed  
Life**

† Jesus is in the life and on the throne

S Self has a relationship with God

- The person experiences God's love, guidance and help in life

**Which circle best represents your life?**

**Which circle would you like to have represent your life?**

*Begin a relationship with Jesus ...*

You can receive Christ right now. Remember that Jesus says, "I'm standing at the door and I'm knocking. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in."<sup>14</sup> Would you like to respond to his invitation? Here's how.

The precise words you use to commit yourself to God are not important. He knows the intentions of your heart. If you are unsure of what to pray, this might help you put it into words:

"Jesus, I want to know you. I want you to come into my life. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sin so that I could be fully accepted by you. Only you can give me the power to change and become the person you created me to be. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. I give my life to you. Please do with it as you wish. Amen."

If you sincerely asked Jesus into your life just now, then he has come into your life as he promised. You have begun a personal relationship with God.

## 2 Starting with God

**Congratulations on your decision to ask Jesus Christ into your life.**

What now?

*If this were a religion*, you could expect someone to give you all sorts of Rules. Rituals. Requirements. And maybe a lot of stuff to buy!

But when you asked Jesus into your life, you did not join a religion.

Instead, you began a *relationship*. With God.

And that's pretty amazing.

You might be wondering what it will be like, to be in a relationship with God. What to expect? And most importantly, how does a person even begin to get to know God better?

### **3 Is God In My Life Now?**

When you made that decision and invited Jesus into your life, it is important to know, did God hear you? Yes. Jesus promised that He would enter our lives, if we ask Him.



In Revelation 3:20 Jesus makes this offer, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.” Did you open the door of your heart to God? If

so, what did He say He would do? Would God mislead you?

First John 5:14 says, “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”

In John 6:37, Jesus said, “All that the Father gives me will come to me; and him who comes to me I will not cast out.” And in John 10:27-29 Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”

Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so that we could be in relationship with Him. He’s not indifferent to the issue. He went to great lengths to bring us into relationship with Him. Jesus took our sins on Himself and covered us with His righteousness, making us fully forgiven and fully accepted by Him. We don’t have to first live good lives, or perform religious rituals, or spend years begging Him. God is the one who made it

possible for us to have a relationship with Him. And we come to Him based on what He did for us, rather than what we can do. He paid for our sins, in order to forgive us and come into our lives. First Peter 3:18 says, “For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.”

### **3.1.1 When a person asks Jesus into their life, it is exciting to know what God says is now true about your relationship with God:**

- **You are at peace with God** — “Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)
- **You became a child of God** — “to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.” (John 1:12)
- **You are no longer living in darkness** — “for once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8)

“He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred



us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” (Colossians 1:13,14)

- **You are forgiven** — “To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” (Acts 10:43)

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us.” (Ephesians 1:7,8)

“This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” (1 John 4:9,10)

- **You have been given eternal life** — “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not

come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.” (John 5:24)

“And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who has not the Son of God has not life. I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:11-13)

- **You are sealed with the Holy Spirit** — “In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:13)
- **You can begin to know God’s love for you** — “If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you

will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."  
(John 15:7-11)

### **3.1.2 To grow in your relationship with God:**



To get to know God better, spend time in His word (the Bible) asking Him to reveal more of Himself to you and for Him to build your relationship with Him. The Gospel of John (fourth book in the New Testament) is a great place to start.

And talk to Him freely. We are encouraged to “Have no anxiety about anything, but in

everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”  
(Philippians 4:6,7)

**Is There a God?  
Does God exist? Here are six  
straightforward reasons to believe that  
God is really there**

Just once wouldn't you love for someone to simply show you the evidence for God's existence? No arm-twisting. No statements of, "You just have to believe." Well, here is an attempt to candidly offer some of the reasons which suggest that God exists.

But first consider this. When it comes to the possibility of God's existence, the Bible says that there are people who have seen sufficient evidence, but they have suppressed the truth about God.<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, for those who want to know God if he is there, he says, "You will seek me and find me; when you seek me with all your heart, I will

be found by you."<sup>2</sup> Before you look at the facts surrounding his existence, ask yourself, *If God does exist, would I want to know him?* Here then, are some reasons to consider...

**3.2 1. *The complexity of our planet points to a deliberate Designer who not only created our universe, but sustains it today.***

Many examples showing God's design could be given, possibly with no end. But here are a few:

**The Earth**...its size is perfect. The Earth's size and corresponding gravity holds a thin layer of mostly nitrogen and oxygen gases, only extending about 50 miles above the Earth's surface. If Earth were smaller, an atmosphere would be impossible, like the planet Mercury. If Earth were larger, its atmosphere would contain free hydrogen, like Jupiter.<sup>3</sup> Earth is the only known planet equipped with an atmosphere of the right mixture of gases to sustain plant, animal and human life.



The Earth is located the right distance from the sun. Consider the temperature swings we encounter, roughly -30 degrees to +120 degrees.

If the Earth were any further away from the sun, we would all freeze. Any closer and we would burn up. Even a fractional variance in the Earth's position to the sun would make life on Earth impossible. The Earth remains this perfect distance from the sun while it rotates around the sun at a speed of nearly 67,000 mph. It is also rotating on its axis, allowing the entire surface of the Earth to be properly warmed and cooled every day.

And our moon is the perfect size and distance from the Earth for its gravitational pull. The moon creates important ocean tides and movement so ocean waters do not stagnate, and yet our massive oceans are restrained from spilling over across the continents.<sup>4</sup>

**Water**...colorless, odorless and without taste, and yet no living thing can survive without it. Plants, animals and human beings consist mostly of water (about two-thirds of



(the human body is water).  
You'll see why the  
characteristics of water are  
uniquely suited to life:

It has wide margin  
between its boiling point and freezing point.  
Water allows us to live in an environment of  
fluctuating temperature changes, while  
keeping our bodies a steady 98.6 degrees.

Water is a universal solvent. This property of  
water means that various chemicals, minerals  
and nutrients can be carried throughout our  
bodies and into the smallest blood vessels.<sup>5</sup>

Water is also chemically neutral. Without  
affecting the makeup of the substances it  
carries, water enables food, medicines and  
minerals to be absorbed and used by the  
body.

Water has a unique surface tension. Water in  
plants can therefore flow upward against  
gravity, bringing life-giving water and  
nutrients to the top of even the tallest trees.

Water freezes from the top down and floats,  
so fish can live in the winter.