

INTIMACY WITH GOD

MEMORY VERSE

JOHN 17:3

"Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."

1. What is eternal life all about? (John 17:3)
-

The verb "know" in this scripture (and the verses in the rest of this study) denotes a tremendous sense of intimacy, comparing our union with God to the physical, emotional and spiritual union of husband and wife. Eternal life is to know God intimately like Adam knew Eve.

2. For what three reasons did Jesus appoint the twelve apostles? (Mark 3:14-15)

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

Any person who truly knows Jesus well will desire to take the gospel of salvation to a lost and hurting world and will work hard to do so. But being with Him and placing a priority on time in His presence is the essential foundation for any effective ministry.

3. What priority does Jesus place on being with Him? (Luke 10:38-42)
-

Again, this is not at all an excuse for laziness. In I Corinthians 15:58, we are commanded to be always abounding in the work of the Lord. Paul said that by the grace of God, he worked harder than all the other apostles (I Corinthians 15:10).

4. The Ephesians had *almost* everything going for them spiritually, including sound doctrine, a love for truth and an exceptionally strong work ethic. What did Jesus hold against them? (Revelation 2:1-7)
-

5. What did He command them to do to correct the problem? (v. 5)
-

6. What did He say would happen if they did not return to their first love? (v. 5)
-

7. What is Paul's request for the Ephesians in this prayer? (Ephesians 1:15-21)
-

8. What was Jesus in the habit of doing? (Matthew 14:23, Mark 1:35, Luke 6:12, Luke 9:28)

9. What was the secret to the power Jesus operated in? (Luke 4:12-17)

10. What will the people who know their God do? (Daniel 11:32)

11. How will we bear much fruit? What can we do apart from a living connection with Jesus? (John 15:4-5)

Knowing God intimately is the prerequisite for being used of God. Those who love God will get far more work done for God than those who serve out of habit, duty or pressure.

12. Who does God intend to know Him this intimately? (Jeremiah 31:34)

13. What command does God give us in Psalm 34:8?

14. What will be the results of such an experience of God? (Psalm 34:9-10)

15. What is God's promise in Jeremiah 29:13? What is the condition to His promise?

16. What is true love for God? (John 14:15)

17. What does Jesus promise those who love Him? (John 14:21)

The reason we love God is that He first loved us. We must believe God loves us and learn to practically receive His love for us so that we may love Him back and be transformed by our love relationship with Him.

18. What does Paul ask for the Ephesians in this passage? (Ephesians 3:14-21)

19. What does knowing the love of Christ lead to? (v. 19)

The Amplified Bible renders Eph. 3:19 *“that you may really come to know—practically, through experience for yourselves—the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge (without experience)...”* God calls us to much more than understanding doctrine about Him. We were created to know and experience our wonderful, glorious God—that is the highest goal of the Christian life and the springboard for all effective service to the King. Paul said I know Him who I have believed (II Timothy 1:12), not I know about Him whom I have believed.

20. How did the Psalmist describe his pursuit of God? (Psalm 42:1-2)

21. What will happen to all those who pursue Him in such a manner and spend time beholding Him? (2 Corinthians 3:18)

22. How would you describe Paul’s attitude towards knowing Jesus? (Philippians 3:8-11)
