

***BE STILL AND KNOW  
I AM GOD***

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***KNOWING AND EXPERIENCING OUR LORD***

***PSALMS 46***

***Two Sunday's ago was Pentecost Sunday...It was on the day of Pentecost God sent the promised Holy Spirit..."the Holy Spirit descended to indwell the believers."***

***To indwell means to be permanently present in (someone's soul or mind); possess spiritually.***

***be inherent in, be intrinsic to, be present in, inhere in, exist in, rest in, lie in, dwell in, abide in, consist in...***

***The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the action by which God takes up permanent residence in the body of a believer in Jesus Christ.***

***God the Holy Spirit doesn't just sit still but has a plethora or many ministries as we have been set apart for God to grow in holiness...***

***We refer to this as our sanctification, our walking in the Spirit and not our flesh, becoming Holy as God is holy...***

***God has set us apart to be holy and has given us the gift of His Spirit to help us...***

***Last Sunday we looked at psalms 46 and heard God tell Israel to be still and know He is God..***

***Pp 1***

***Psalms 46:10 ESV***

***“Be still, and know that I am God.***

***I will be exalted (honored) among the nations,***

***I will be exalted (honored) in the earth!”***

***God will be honored before nations and will be honored in the earth... Be still... cease from pandemonium and know He is God...***

***How about us? We know God.... In fact we have something the Old Testament believers did not..***

***God dwelt among them, but God now dwells in us...***

***God the Son, God the Holy Spirit and God the Father are dwelling in us as we are His temple here on earth...***

***So what does it look like for us to be still and experience God?***

***You might be thinking...wait a minute pastor, I thought we were to be still to know God..***

***You are correct... However to really know God to have intimacy with the Devine is to love , trust and obey thus experiencing God as he reveals himself..***

***What would it look like for us to be still and know God?***

***The Hebrew word "to know" is a word we use probably without realizing its origin..***

*The word "To know" in the Hebrew is yada..  
Have you ever said yadha yadha yadha.. I know, I  
know I know.. in the Greek, its gnosis...*

*To know in a personal relation, we see the logical  
act joined with the element of affection and desire  
being choice, love, favor, or, conversely, disgust,  
dislike and. taking it to extreme. hatred.*

*Knowledge is distinguished from "opinion" by its  
greater certainty.*

*I don't have an opinion about God, I know (**yadha-  
gnosis**) Him because I have experienced Him as He  
has revealed himself to me.*

*I know God on the basis of His revelation as I  
cannot know God unless it is His presenting and me  
receiving of His revelation of himself...*

*And I need the Holy Spirit to mediate and expose  
or interpret this revealing... I or we have no origin*

***of reality or truth apart from God... God alone is truth..***

***Only the one who abides stands or accepts in the Word of God knows the truth. Jesus tells us...***

***Pp 2***

John 8:31b-32 ESV

...“If you ***abide in my word***, you are truly my disciples, (32) and ***you will know the truth***, and the truth will set you free.” *(free from sin)*

***In John Chapter 17 we have the “High Priestly Prayer”.. Jesus is praying to the Father helping us understand the result of knowing of God...***

***Pp 3***

And this is eternal life, that they ***know you***, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 17:3 ESV

***God created our minds with the capacity for knowledge, and the desire to possess and increase in knowing Him.***

***The highest knowledge possible to you and me is the knowledge of God... And, we are in luck as God is knowable in the measure in which He has revealed Himself in creation..***

***Pp 4***

Romans 1:18-20 ESV

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

(19) For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

***What or how have you shown them that they know?***

(20) For His invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

***God did not cease revealing himself after creation of the world... He supremely, perfectly, made himself known in the incarnation, revealing himself as the son of God, Jesus , who alone perfectly knows the Father, and reveals Him to us.***

***Pp 5***

**Matthew 11:27 ESV**

**All things have been handed over to me (*Jesus*) by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son...**

***To know the Son is to know The Father as the Son is the perfect incarnation of God... He and the Father are one!***

***Do you remember the passage where the Jews were gathering in the temple when Jesus made the declaration of being equal with God?***

***It was winter and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon during the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem..***



***A group of Jews had gathered around Him and were demanding an answer to their question...***

***Let's turn to John Chapter 10 and begin with verse 24..***

***Pp 6***

John 10:24-30 ESV (24) So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

(25) Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, (26) but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep.

(27) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. (28) I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

(29) 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.

***And here is your answer as to who I am!***

***Pp 7***

***(30) I and the Father are one."***

***Upon hearing that, the Jews were going to stone Jesus for blasphemy due his claiming he and God are one in the same..***

***I have been questioned before as I have used this verse to show others God and Jesus are One***

***They want to know how I know this is the claim being made...***

***So how do I or we know this is what Jesus is claiming? It's in the next verse.. We let scripture explain scripture...***

***The group of Jews he was telling this to affirmed it.. Look at verse 33..***

**Pp 8**

John 10:33 ESV

The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, **make yourself God.**"

***This knowledge of God in Jesus Christ is "life eternal".***

**Pp 9**

John 17:3 ESV

And this is **eternal life**, that they **know you**, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

***Knowledge is affirmed of both God and man, but there is a wide contrast between the two.***

***God's knowledge is absolute, unerring, complete, intuitive, embracing all things, past, present, and future, and searching the inmost thoughts of the heart... We must ask God to tell us the grievous***

***ways about us.. Lord what grieves you about me...? Have you ever asked God to do this?***

***Pp 10***

***Psalms 139:23-24 ESV***

***Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! (24) And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!***

***Our knowledge of what we know is partial, imperfect, comparative, gradually acquired, and largely mixed with error ("Now we see in a mirror darkly ... in part,"***

***Pp 11***

***1 Corinthians 13:11-13 ESV***

***When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.***

***(12) For now we see in a mirror **dimly**, but then face to face.***

Now I know in part;  
then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully  
known.

***Teaching about knowledge are thoroughly brought  
out in the Scripture...***

***The Bible always presents "knowing" in terms of  
[personal relationship](#).***

***In the Hebrew language, which is a beautiful  
expressive language, the words knowing and  
having knowledge refers to an exercise of the  
emotions as well as the intellect.***

***Right brain left brain.. logic and emotions..***

***Use your full brain to know God***

***To know in scripture is an inside out knowledge..***

***Inside working with outside or outward action  
based on the experience with God..***

***In asking God to accompany the Israelites, Moses  
said,***

**Pp 12**

"If I have found favor in your eyes, teach me your ways so I may **know you** and continue to find favor with you" (Exod. 33:13).

**God's response followed the same lines:**

"I will do the very thing you have asked,

**Why?**

...because I am **pleased with you** and **I know you by name**" ( Exod. 33:17).

**The personal aspects of "knowing" are unmistakable.**

**There is an interesting statement by God here in verse 17... "I know you"**

**God told Moses I (yadha) know you.. I'm experiencing you and its pleasing me (God)to know you Moses... You desire me to be with you and you want to know me better..**

***Moses was using the knowledge god revealed to him and was being obedient in his actions which pleased God..***

***We can look in on Abraham many years before Moses was born and see the same "I know you" phrase being now I know you...Look with me a genesis chapter 22...***

### ***Pp 13***

Genesis 22:7-12 ESV

And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" (8) Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. (9) When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. (10) Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. (11) But the angel of the LORD called

to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

(12) He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, **for now I know that you fear God**, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

***Now you know? Last time I checked you were all knowing. What do you mean now I know...?***

***Again the word here to know carries more than just the logical understanding of just knowing about something...***

***It involves much more...***

***In biblical Hebrew, the word know refers primarily to experiential learning. When we read that "Cain knew his wife," it meant that he had "carnal knowledge" of her and her of him: they had intimate relationship emotionally, and sexually...***



***The experienced one another at a much deeper level rather than just being aware of each other of to know one another..***

***Let me take us to Adam and Eve in the garden...***

***Pp 14***

Genesis 2:16-17 ESV

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, (17) but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

***In English language, we read about "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil," but the Hebrew might be better translated as "the tree of the experience of good and evil."***

***God told Adam he was forbidden to eat from that tree.***

***They were not to eat of it as they were forbidden the experience of evil.***

***God did not want them experiencing evil as they would sin and be separated from Him.***

***After they experienced the evil by eating God gracefully got them out of the garden...***

***They were not kicked out of the garden due to an angry God... It was because of His grace and love he set them out.. We find this in Ch. 3 vs 21-23***

***Pp 15***

Genesis 3:21-23 ESV

And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. (22) Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" (23) therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.

***God did not want them to live forever in the sinful state, so he placed them outside and gave them***

***another chance to be reunited properly to Him...  
He did the same for us...***

***Many times the language of English doesn't expose  
or allow us to grasp the deeper meaning of the  
word as here..***

***Most European languages use two different words  
for these two kinds of knowledge.***

***In French,***

***to know in the sense of knowing a person is  
connaitre; to know in the sense of knowing a  
subject in school is savoir.***

***In Spanish,***

***to know as in knowing a person is conocer; to  
know in the sense of book learning is saber.***

***In German,***

***Knowledge about a person or a place that you've  
actually experienced is Kenntnis, from kennen, "to  
know by experience";***

***Knowledge learned from books is Wissenschaft>  
from wissen> "to know about something."***

***There is a fundamental belief running through all European pedagogy...being the methods of teaching children the relationship between applied linguistics and language..***

***that both to know and to have experienced are valuable, and that the two ways of knowing must be balanced.***

***Years ago, there was a class of Swiss third-graders on a field trip through the Dolder forest, high above Zurich.***

***The teacher divided the children into pairs. One child in each pair blindfolded the other.***

***Then the blindfolded child was led to a tree, at least ten paces away, and was instructed to feel the tree with her hands, from the ground up; and also to smell it. (Some children even licked it.)***

*Next the child was spun around and led away from the tree, at least ten paces in a different direction.*

*Then the blindfold was removed, and the child was asked: Which tree were you just experiencing? Which tree did you see without your eyes?*

*They were learning to experience the real world, not just know about it...*

*We need to experience the real God and not just know about him..*

*Like Moses and Abraham and all the other biblical men and women, we need to taste, feel and experience the living God as he experiences our love and obedience to him...*

*In closing I have jotted down 5 items helping us to experience God better... I'm sure you can add to it so I left #6 open for you!*

**Pp 16**

### ***How to get to know God better***

- 1) Accept Christ as your Savior.
- 2) Read His Word...it is alive (Hebrews 4:12).

3) On an on-going basis, be filled with the Holy Spirit.

4) Seek the Lord through prayer.

5) Fellowship and live out your life with the saints  
(Hebrews 10:25).

6) \_\_\_\_\_

***Biblical knowing or "knowledge" is affirming existentially God internalized, including the knowing to be personally acted on representing the internalization...***

***Its you heart mind and soul involved in knowing and experiencing God on a journey doing life here until we get there...***