

How To Know God Personally

Dr. Paul B. Phair

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to know God? God Himself has told us how we can, in the Bible.

God seeks a special relationship with us.

The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. 2 Chronicles 16:9 NLT

Isn't it amazing to think that God desires to have a relationship with each of us?! -- But there is a serious problem.

We are separated from God.

Romans 3:23 NLT tells us, *For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.* God says in Isaiah 59:2 NLT *It's your sins that have cut you off from God...* Furthermore, Romans 6:23 GW states, *The payment for sin is death* [which means spiritual separation from God now and forever]...



None of us fully meet God's standard of purity and love for Him and others. This failure, which God calls sin in the Bible, separates us from a relationship with God here on earth, and in the life to come, the consequences are even more severe – eternal judgment (hell). We're incapable of bridging the gap between God and us. Is there any hope? There is!

Jesus paid the price for our spiritual failure.

God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 NLT
God is on one side and all the people on the other side, and Christ Jesus, himself man, is between them to bring them together, 1 Timothy 2:5 TLB



Jesus, who is both fully God and fully human, lovingly paid the penalty for our spiritual failure. He did this by dying on the cross, and bearing God's just judgment in our place. Jesus not only died, but He also victoriously rose from the dead to offer us spiritual life.

It is through trusting in Jesus that we can have a special relationship with God forever.

To all who believed [Jesus] and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12. NLT



The “A, B, C’s” of believing and accepting Jesus involve:

Acknowledging your need – admitting you have failed God (sinned) and desiring to turn from your path of disobedience.

Believing in Jesus Christ – that He died in your place and rose again to be your Rescuer (Savior) – providing you forgiveness. You trust solely in Jesus for forgiveness & a relationship with Him, and not in any religious ceremonies or your flawed attempts to live a good enough life (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Choosing to invite Jesus Christ to lead and direct your life – and thereby become one of His devoted followers.

You can begin a special relationship with God right now by praying something like this, “Lord Jesus, I want to know you personally. Thank you for dying on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. I believe you died and rose again to be my forgiver and leader. Come into my life, lead me, and help me to become the person you purposed me to be.”

There is no power in merely saying the words of this prayer. The power is in God’s working in your heart and mind to humbly place your genuine trust in Jesus.

If you trusted in Christ, or you would like to talk about your journey to coming to the place where you are ready to do so, I invite you to contact me: paul@oakwoodfl.org or 813/969-2303. ~ Dr. Paul B. Phair

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