General Topics :: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Him?

Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Him?, on: 2008/12/28 21:32

As a former Catholic, I gave mental assent to the fact that Jesus is the Son of God and that He died for my sins. I readily believed that in my head. The fact was, I did not know Him. Its not the knowing about Him or the giving mental assent to abstract truths that save a man, its about actually Â“knowing,Â” Him. Trusting Him completely and surrendering your whole life to Him. This is a work of the heart, not of the head. You cannot know Jesus through your intellect, no more than you can know Napoleon. One is dead, the other is alive and must be met, this is a meeting of the heart.

Yet, by merely giving mental assent to a few sentences, can that possibly save? No, and it did not and does not. So how is it that we can have went unnoticed for so long. Most have hidden (admittedly unknowingly) in Romans chapter 7. To me, there are three broad categories of people that can be found dwelling in the world of Romans 7, the world of Â“oh wretched man that I am.Â” First there is the man who gave a mere mental assent to abstract truth and is still dead in his sins but does not know it and believes he is having a Romans 7 experience. This man never lost his life for the sake of Christ, was not willing to give up everything and put all of his trust in Jesus.

Second group is the genuine Christian who has taken up camp in Romans 7 and feels safer in his prison of sin, does not reckon himself to be free and looks to himself rather than Christ for his strength(began in the Spirit and is now attempting to finish in the flesh)When he looks at himself he only sees his sin.

Third group, the Christian that is passing through and onto Romans 8. He has struggled with his sin and thrashed and th rushed and is now about to reach desperation. He has rightly concluded that he has a sin nature and will eventually cry out Â“who will deliver me from this body of death?Â” This journey is vital for every Christian. For if we, at the beginning, have a head knowledge of the fact that we can never overcome sin, and therefore Â“sin boldly,Â” relying on grace, then that grace is cheap grace and no grace at all.

But, if after having walked the narrow path we eventually come to the conclusion that we can never overcome sin, then we stop looking at ourselves and look to Jesus. It must be pointed out though, that when Paul is writing this, it is the writings of a man very sensitive to the Holy Spirit. What he describes in Romans 7 is not the path of a man who walked about sinning without a care.

The only person who can discover the truth of Romans 8 is the man that has struggled and failed. And when I say struggled, I am not talking about people who are going about murdering or sleeping around or drunk or people who were still in bondage to the sins of their life before Christ, I am talking about the people who, in Christ, overcame all of that and yet still came to the conclusion of the end of Romans 7. To them, lies the glorious freedom of Romans 8. And to them is still the requirement of Â“abiding continuallyÂ” to be intimate.

This intimacy, this presence is the key to all aspects of our Christianity. There is no difficulty in Christendom today that could not be resolved by the presence of God. That is why it all comes back to Calvary. Calvary is the expression of absolute Love, absolute surrender, absolute victory. It is the totality of the expression of GodÂ’s love for the world. To understand the cross and its meaning more deeply is to know God more deeply. That can be said in reverse and have the exact same meaning. To know God more deeply is to understand the cross on a deeper level. The more you understand the cross, the deeper you Â“know,Â” God, the less you care about yourself, your rights, your agenda and your circumstances.

For on the cross we see the highest expression of Â“not my will but thine be done.Â” To understand the cross more deeply is a revelation. To know God more deeply is a revelation, an encounter with the living God Himself. Revelation comes by the presence of God. Therefore all understanding of Spiritual things come by a revelation by the Holy Spirit, and cannot come no other way. It is impossible for the carnal mind to understand Spiritual things. So, without a revelation, without an encounter, all we have is a head knowledge.

To stand in the light of God, and be totally transparent and for the light of God to penetrate every particle of your being is something that truly defies description.
The English language, in all of its beauty, is at a loss to describe this. The mighty prophet of God cries out Â“Woe is me, for I am a man undone.Â” Now this sounds like a negative thing, but of course it is not, it is a penetrating thing. To come to this place we must pass the alter, and the alter is a place of sacrifice. Too long has the Church leaders called out Â“come forward and be blessed, come forward and get healed, come forward and be prayed for, come forward and get something. You don't get anything from the alter, you bring something, its a place of sacrifice. So, unless the Church as a whole understands this, they are destined to stay out in the courtyards and not enter into(past the alter) the inner sanctum. The courtyard is CainÂ’s court, this is the place where most of the soulish activity of the church takes place. Its not a bad thing if it leads you to the alter, but more often than not, it leads you deeper into the soul. The soulful experience belongs to the dwellers of of Romans 7, the Spiritual experience, the presence of God, belongs to those who will walk in Romans 8.

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Re: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Hlm? - posted by tjservant (), on: 2008/12/28 22:24

Quote:
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------Too long has the Church leaders called out Â“come forward and be blessed, come forward and get healed, come forward and be prayed for, come forward and get something. You don't get anything from the alter, you bring something, its a place of sacrifice. So, unless the Church as a whole understands this, they are destined to stay out in the courtyards and not enter into(past the alter) the inner sanctum. 
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Amen.

Thanks for sharing this brother.

Re: , on: 2008/12/29 0:04

Yes brother, its time to come to the alter, to sacrifice and press on in.....brother Frank

Re: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Hlm? - posted by kathleen1 (), on: 2008/12/30 13:27

This is a wonderful truth, simply expressed, so anyone can understand. Thanks for sharing the wisdom the Lord has given you.

John 17:3 says AND THIS IS ETERNAL LIFE THAT THEY MAY KNOW THEE, THE ONLY TRUE GOD AND JESUS CHRIST WHOM THOU HAS SENT....

That word know implies an intimate and personal knowledge of, as a husband and wife. We cannot have eternal life if we do not join ourselves intimately to Him, through prayer, and reading His Word, and fellowship with Him. If we have no time for these three, then sadly, we will be among those who hear "Depart from Me, I know you not."

Re: - posted by GodsFire, on: 2008/12/30 14:00

One again Brother Appolus, you are well informed by our Lord.

We are destined to stay in the outer court as long as we are satisfied with only knowing about God

Re: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Hlm?, on: 2008/12/30 14:47

Since you put the thread in a form of a question I would like to answer.

I would say that you cannot know Him without knowing about Him. I too am a former catholic and I though I believed in God, but did not know Him, I can also safely say that I did not really know anything about Him either. I did not know Him, nor did I know my own sin, until someone taught me who He really is...in context...in His Word. So I can say today that I really know Jesus, and I really know about Him also.

Thanks,

Michael
Re: , on: 2008/12/30 16:58
Hi Kathleen...you write..

"That word know implies an intimate and personal knowledge of, as a husband and wife. We cannot have eternal life if we do not join ourselves intimately to Him, through prayer, and reading His Word, and fellowship with Him. If we have no time for these three, then sadly, we will be among those who hear "Depart from Me, I know you not."

Yes dear sister, its the same "know," as in Matthew 1:25.

Re: , on: 2008/12/30 19:13
Hi Godsfire...I agree with your comments. I think the interesting thing for me is that there are many different categories to those who are dwelling in the outer court. I know that I do not dwell in the presence of God continually, nor could I. Kinda like the "mountaintop," experience, no one dwells there continually. Yet, as with all of our Christianity, we must strive "to be perfect," not in a legalistic sense, or by our own strength, but we must continually strive "enter in." If it is within our power to forgive, then we must forgive(and remember, when I say "our power," I mean the power that God gave us to overcome) Or if we have the choice to love our enemies, but we choose not to, these and others are examples of roadblocks or an unwillingness to "sacrifice," which often is what unforgiveness is. So, I must continually ask myself, what is stopping me from entering into the fullness of God, today. I cannot formulize it, but I can take steps to do what the Lord has commanded me to do and therefore position myself correctly....OK, I am rambling now :) God bless....brother Frank

Re: , on: 2008/12/30 21:25
Hi Michael...you write ....

"I did not know Him, nor did I know my own sin, until someone taught me who He really is...in context...in His Word."

Would you mind explaining the above sentence in a little more detail, I think it may be an important point to discuss....brother Frank

Re: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Him? - posted by psalm1, on: 2009/1/3 23:09
this is truly the crux of the matter. To know about him or to know him.

Has anyone mentioned worship?
It is being intimate with Jesus.

I was in the spirit on the Lords day said John before his great encounter with Jesus on patmos

Re: , on: 2009/1/3 23:36
Hi Psalm, it says in the original post ..

"This intimacy, this presence is the key to all aspects of our Christianity. There is no difficulty in Christendom today that could not be resolved by the presence of God. That is why it all comes back to Calvary. Calvary is the expression of absolute Love, absolute surrender, absolute victory. It is the totality of the expression of God's love for the world. To understand and the cross and its meaning more deeply is to know God more deeply. That can be said in reverse and have the exact same meaning. To know God more deeply is to understand the cross on a deeper level. The more you understand the cross, the deeper you "know." God, the less you care about yourself, your rights, your agenda and your circumstances. "............brother Frank
General Topics :: Do you “know,” Jesus or do you know about Him?

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2009/1/4 10:43

"This intimacy, this presence is the key to all aspects of our Christianity. There is no difficulty in Christendom today that could not be resolved by the presence of God. That is why it all comes back to Calvary. Calvary is the expression of absolute Love, absolute surrender, absolute victory. It is the totality of the expression of God’s love for the world. To understand and the cross and its meaning more deeply is to know God more deeply. That can be said in reverse and have the exact same meaning. To know God more deeply is to understand the cross on a deeper level. The more you understand the cross, the deeper you know,Â” God, the less you care about yourself, your rights, your agenda and your circumstances.

"...........brother Frank

amen to this!!

My personal encounter with Jesus came initially as did the apostle Paul.
Not with the voice and the scales but nonetheless an encounter that ‘arrested’ me.

I learned about the cross later. Our church never had a hymnal. We sang from our bible.
The worship leader would say open your bibles to........
And me not knowing squat (still dont) would open my bible and think ‘what in the world are they doing,you cant sing from a bible’.
This was to begin a strength in my walk spiritually that I still draw on. His presence comes and sometimes it is to just sit with him.
He is real and alive. I know him as where he is today. Resurrected at the right hand of the father. I know as the crucified savior but not on the cross today........but living and resurrected. I personally dont gather with him at the cross. He got of f it and is now neither there or in the tomb or in the upper room.

Ps 91; He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most high,shall abide in the shadow of the almighty"

This secret place, upon discovering it,has been my place of gathering with him

Re: , on: 2009/1/4 15:44

Quote:
-------------------------
I did not know Him, nor did I know my own sin, until someone taught me who He really is...in context...in His Word."
-------------------------

Quote:
-------------------------Would you mind explaining the above sentence in a little more detail, I think it may be an important point to discuss....brother Frank
-------------------------

The plot line of all of scripture is God's redemption of His creation, and the context for that story is a fallen world full of men and women who are at enmity with God.

As Jesus himself said -

Quote:
-------------------------“O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26(AE) Was it not necessary that(AF) the Christ should suffer these things and enter into(AG) his glory?“ 27And(AH) beginning with(Al) Moses and(AJ) all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
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The whole of scripture is about Christ and Him crucified: from Adam to Noah to Abraham to Joseph to Moses and the history of Israel...all the way up to the manger, and the cross through the resurrection and His return. It's one great big wonderful story of how God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, has and will redeem His creation. And all those that are includ
ed in Christ by faith are partakers of His wonderful work.

It's all about Him.

Re: , on: 2009/1/4 18:12
Hi Mahoney

Thanks for the clarification, although it was specifically this quote I was interested in .............

Quote:

"I did not know Him, nor did I know my own sin, until someone taught me who He really is...in context...in His Word."

I can say amen to the clarification that you wrote, as I suspect most could. I would just say, and this is the point of the initial post, that you cannot know Jesus personally by studying Him. You know Him because you met Him and you have a relationship with Him. You know about your sin because of convicition of the Holy Spirit. You can dig deeper into the Word and find out many things about Jesus, who He was, how the OT speaks of Him coming and so on. Yet, the key point is that we are saved because we "know," Him personally and not because we know about Him. Many Christians knew little to nothing about Jesus or the Scriptures until after they came to Christ. Then they dive into the Word because they have been transfored by the relationship that they now have and they learn so much by the reading of the Word. The Holy Spirit they now have opens up the Scriptures to them allowing them and enabling them to understand what they could not when they were in their "carnality."........brother Frank

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2009/1/5 12:53
by Mahoney on 2008/12/30 10:47:18

Since you put the thread in a form of a question I would like to answer.

I would say that you cannot know Him without knowing about Him. I too am a former catholic and I though I believed in God, but did not know Him, I can also safely say that I did not really know anything about Him either. I did not know Him, nor did I know my own sin, until someone taught me who He really is...in context...in His Word. So I can say today that I really know Jesus, and I really know about Him also

I agree wholeheartedly, but are you saying to know about him is one and the same as knowing him?

Just asking

Re: , on: 2009/1/5 14:17

Quote:

------------------I agree wholeheartedly, but are you saying to know about him is one and the same as knowing him?
------------------

First off, pitting the two categories (knowing Him and knowing about Him) against each other is really a false dichotomy anyway...but what I am saying is:

You cannot know Jesus without knowing about Jesus and understanding His purpose and work.

Look at Ephesians 3

17That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
18May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
19And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God
General Topics :: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Him?

Paul's prayer was that the people of God would comprehend and know the love of Christ. There are two parts to knowing the Love of Christ:

We must comprehend His love - lay hold of it with our mind.

We must know His love - experience it in our lives.

The two are inseparable. We must comprehend Christ and His work with our minds and we must experience Him and His work in our lives. We cannot have one without the other.

Feelings come and go. Intense times of prayer come and go, and based upon how disciplined one is prayer times come and go. We must have something more reliable then our feelings and experiences. That thing is His word, and His Word is life...Eternal life.

Re: , on: 2009/1/5 14:30
Quote

"First off, pitting the two categories (knowing Him and knowing about Him) against each other is really a false dichotomy anyway...but what I am saying is:

You cannot know Jesus without knowing about Jesus and understanding His purpose and work."

We will have to agree to disagree, there is no dichotomy. The post was about salvation itself, you seem to be confusing justification with sanctification. Ephesians three is a perfect example of what cannot be known by the intellect. One cannot know the fullness of God outside of actually experiencing His presence, an actual encounter with the living God. Can one live in the mountaintops? No. Does one walk in the manifest presence of God at all times? No, quite the opposite. You can know almost nothing about Scripture and know Jesus, yet, you can know everything about Jesus through the Scriptures and not "know," Jesus, not be saved, that was and is the point of the post......brother Frank

Re: , on: 2009/1/5 15:13
Quote:

-------------------------------experiencing His presence, an actual encounter with the living God
-------------------------------

...and where has God chosen to abide?
...how and where do we encounter the living God?

Re: , on: 2009/1/5 16:51
Quote

"...and where has God chosen to abide?
...how and where do we encounter the living God?"

Are these rhetorical questions Mahoney ? :) I think the first we can all agree that Jesus went to be with His Father but He sent His Holy Spirit, our helper. The Holy Spirit resides in us, He magnifies Jesus in our hearts, He leads and guides us into all truth. Your second question is an excellent one "How and where do we encounter the living God?" What is the difference between having "Jesus in our hearts," and having an actual encounter, a spiritual experience a "God coming down," a shekinah, an actual experience of "His presence." To me, these are the key questions. If one has never experienced any of these, ever, then one would have to question what one has.
This intimacy with the Lord is not through the intellect, nor does it depend upon you knowledge of the Word. If knowledge of the Word was equated with intimacy, then the Pharisees would have been the most "intimate," of believers. Yet, the y did not recognize God when He stood in front of them.

So, who out there can give examples of "meeting God," or intimacy?.......brother Frank

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2009/1/5 20:15
Quote;
"You cannot know Jesus without knowing about Jesus and understanding His purpose and work".

True, however, the question is coined the other way around.

Some only know about him, but never 'met' him personally.

Do you agree?

Re: , on: 2009/1/5 23:29
Thats right Psalm, you can know about Jesus but never "know," Him. The opposite cannot be said. That was the thrust of the post........Frank

Re: - posted by cchhhhrrriiisss (), on: 2009/1/6 0:13
I remember having a conversation with a person from the Church that I was a part of while in high school. I was explaining the difference between knowing God and knowing about God. This person, a graduate from a Pentecostal Bible college, seemed so perplexed -- couldn't understand -- the difference. I tried to explain it as simply as possible: Knowing God is spending your life, time and effort to spend time with God. Literally, you love...long for...and are satisfied just sitting/layering/walking in worship, prayer and intimacy with God.

I told this person: When you are alone...and no one is around...you can't pretend to love spending time with God. You get something from spending intimate time with Him. You can hear our Lord's heartbeat. You can hear His still small voice. His Word becomes clear. And you don't want to leave those times of intimacy. You are always remembering...always considering the things of God. Your heart melts when you think of Jesus. When you are at school...or work...or even in the middle of a Church meeting...you can't wait to leave so you can go and be alone with the greatest Love of your life -- the Creator of all things!

The person that I was talking with seemed so confused. That person told me, "I don't mean to be critical, but it seems like you are literally 'in love' with Jesus!" I took that as a compliment (even though I don't think it was meant to be). Yet I was puzzled that a person would spend their life in the study of God (and doctrine) if they didn't have such intimacy with Christ. I don't know where this person stood with the Lord, but I do know so many people who suppose themselves to have quite a bit of "knowledge" of God...but it might simply be a knowledge of particular sectarian doctrine (or lessons about what people think they know about God).

To know Him: It truly is all that matters in life.

:-)

Re: , on: 2009/1/6 6:59
Quote......

"When you are alone...and no one is around...you can't pretend to love spending time with God. You get something from spending intimate time with Him. You can hear our Lord's heartbeat. You can hear His still small voice. His Word becomes clear. And you don't want to leave those times of intimacy. You are always remembering...always considering the things of God. Your heart melts when you think of Jesus. When you are at school...or work...or even in the middle of a Church meeting...you can't wait to leave so you can go and be alone with the greatest Love of your life -- the Creator of all things!"

Amen brother, I could not have put it better. Its the essence of your life, its what you live for, Jesus is indeed the lover of our souls. Praise the Lord for you "knowledge," brother........Frank
Re: - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2009/1/12 0:54

Quote: 
ccchhhrrriiissss wrote:

Knowing God is spending your life, time and effort to spend time with God. Literally, you love...long for...and are satisfied just sitting/laying/walking in worship, prayer and intimacy with God.

When you are alone...and no one is around...you can't pretend to love spending time with God. You get something from spending intimate time with Him. You can hear our Lord's heartbeat. You can hear His still small voice. His Word becomes clear. And you don't want to leave those times of intimacy. You are always remembering...always considering the things of God. Your heart melts when you think of Jesus. When you are at school...or work...or even in the middle of a Church meeting...you can't wait to leave so you can go and be alone with the greatest Love of your life -- the Creator of all things!

To know Him: It truly is all that matters in life.

:-)

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Very encouraging thread. I much appreciated what Chris shared.

"This is life eternal: that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent" (Jn. 17.3).

I was going to post something on your thread, Frank (How Big Is Your God?) but thought I would put it here.

A friend once said to me, "There are things in God that we don't know Him well enough to ask Him for." He meant, attributes of God, His character and nature...and the goals we pursue in our lives-- even the Christian goals--are often very small, very limited, because we simply don't know Him well enough to ask Him for, and seek after, "things that are excellent" (Phil. 1. 9-11).

So it's true: He is a very big, very vast God, and even we who do know Him, we know Him so little. And much of the time we are not conscious that the field of our vision (of God) is very...well, small.

But then God does a work in us, and we become dissatisfied with the things we have been pursuing: they no longer feed us as before. We long for "Something" more.

Or we are brought into deep waters, and we realize that the only thing that will get us through what we are going through is a deeper knowledge of GOD, and we cry out, like Paul cried out, even after so many years even of walking with Him, "Oh, that I might KNOW Him..."

He is of such a nature, and we are of such a nature, that He must do a work in our lives to prepare us, expand us, ready us, for a deeper knowing of Him.

And so, His dealings in our lives have that objective: to prepare us to come to know Him better, know Him more fully.

He leads us in a certain way, and suddenly we get a glimpse of His beauty that causes us to abhor our earlier ambitions. And that glimpse is just not enough: we must KNOW Him that way, in a Way that changes us into the same image.

Or He leads us through hard things, perplexing things, overwhelming things, grievous things... and this prepares us for a revelation of Himself that we could never have appreciated otherwise.

In that other thread about How Big is our God, you quoted Oswald Chambers saying something about the scientist who has a problem with his sense of smell...and so perhaps concludes that a certain something has no odour.

It's like that with us, I think, in many ways. We may think we "know God," and no doubt in a measure we do, but then He does a work in us that creates in us, say, a "sense of smell," as it were, and suddenly we are saying, "Oh, I didn't know God was like THAT."

And then our knowledge of Him is actually participation IN Him, and fellowship WITH Him.
General Topics :: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Him?

Paul said, "We know in part..." This is one of the most difficult areas for us in the Christian walk. We see something, and we assume we've got it now. We are prone to think that our seeing of God, our knowing of Him, is complete. But even the things we know about Him, we don't know them yet as we ought to know.

What a precious thing it is in our lives when God succeeds in creating in us a hunger for more of Him. Not knowledge about Him, like the scientist... but the kind of knowledge that, as I said, changes us into the same image.

We can know that God is love. That's something it's possible to know about God. You can read it in the Scriptures. That He is love.

But then to actually KNOW "the love of Christ that passeth knowledge..." This is actually knowing God in a way that we become like Him, and ourselves walk in love. "...For love is of God, and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love."

So this kind of knowledge is not just information, but intimacy with Him, fellowship with Him. It's New Covenant knowledge, seeing Him in a way that we are "changed into the same image."

New Covenant knowledge. "And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know Me from the least to the greatest" (Heb. 8.11).

AD

Re: , on: 2009/1/12 9:40

Quote....

"He leads us in a certain way, and suddenly we get a glimpse of His beauty that causes us to abhor our earlier ambitions. And that glimpse is just not enough: we must KNOW Him that way, in a Way that changes us into the same image."

Quote....

"What a precious thing it is in our lives when God succeeds in creating in us a hunger for more of Him. Not knowledge about Him, like the scientist... but the kind of knowledge that, as I said, changes us into the same image.

We can know that God is love. That's something it's possible to know about God. You can read it in the Scriptures. That He is love."

Amen and amen AD. I think I will go ahead and post this reply in the other thread as well since it it so edifying. This is the kind of "knowing," that rocked the world, that caused men to kneel down before the lion, to ascend the stairs of the gallows, to die in whatever way rather than deny what they could not possibly deny. For it is impossible to stand in the presence of the living God, to come away from the throne room, to have been undone, then to deny Him. This "glimpse of His beauty," this moment in His tabernacle, is enough to make us hungry and thirsty for the rest of our lives. In fact, it ruins us for this life. In fact, that old hymn comes to mind "cast your eyes upon Jesus, look full into His wonderful face, and the things of earth shall grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace." He is so vast, we are so small. He contains all of the universes and all that exists, yet.... yet.... yet, He allows Himself to be "known," by us mere creatures, the apple of His eye. The Word of God says.........

"He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God."

Praise God, we creatures can be filled "with all the fullness of God." We can "know," the breadth and length and depth and height of the love of God. To "know," Him this way is to swim in the river of life. Ankle deep is not enough, up to our waist is not enough, only when we are fully immersed and flowing in the river of life do we go where He leads. To allow the current of God Himself, the Holy Spirit to lead and to guide us, is life itself............Frank
Re: - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2009/1/12 10:27

Quote:
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appolus wrote:
To "know," Him this way is to swim in the river of life. Ankle deep is not enough, up to our waist is not enough, only when we are fully immersed and flowing in the river of life do we go where he leads. To allow the current of God Himself, the Holy Spirit to lead and to guide us, is life itself........Frank
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Yes, amen. This is walking with the Son of God. As Christians, we pursue so many things. But he greatly desires that we surrender all our "ambitions, hopes, and dreams," like the song says, and simply walk with Him.

As someone said on another thread a while ago-- I forget who it was-- they came to the place where they quit trying to work for God, and just wanted to walk WITH Him.

To come into that River of the Spirit, and let the current do the leading, and just flow with the Spirit... this is the yoke of Christ, this is "the Life" that the Son of God came to manifest... because this is God's intention for us in redemption: that we walk as He walked. This is what it means to know Him. "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk even as He walked" (1 Jn. 2.6).

AD

Re: , on: 2009/1/13 20:22

Quote......

"To come into that River of the Spirit, and let the current do the leading, and just flow with the Spirit... this is the yoke of Christ, this is "the Life" that the Son of God came to manifest."

Amen brother...I wonder how many other people out there could try and describe what it means to them to "know," Jesus. I would love to hear other examples.......Frank

Re: Great Post - posted by ChrisMo (), on: 2009/1/14 4:42

This post is great, we are not just talking about doctrine, but about knowing our Lord Jesus Christ, He has stirred me up in the last 1 1/2 years, I am no longer satisfied with what I had then. He has shown me that it is out of my relationship with Him that everything else flows, including any works He would have me do. I am so glad that I was obedient to the Holy Spirit when He drew me out of my job. I have spent so much time with Him & then out of the blue was diagnosed with lymphoma, what a shock this was, my time with Jesus has been what has got me through this, I have been able to witness in the hospital & told anybody that would listen about the Lord & that I was trusting in Him to heal me. I am hoping to see eternal fruit in heaven come from this.

No I do not believe that my Lord gave me this, He does not give sickness, this was all covered in the atonement, but He can use our circumstances for His glory. Somebody at my church had a wonderful word for me, (he did not know what I was going through, as I had only just been diagnosed) that the Lord was upholding me with His loving hands through this stretching of my faith. The Lord also gave me John 11:4 & John 11:40. I am so greatful to the Lord for these words, as at times this walk is very scarey & I have to totally trust God for my life.

Christ in me the hope of glory.
I have the mind of Christ.
My life hid with Christ in God.
God is so good, where would we be without Him!
General Topics :: Do you "know," Jesus or do you know about Him?

Re: , on: 2009/1/14 12:31
Hi brother

God bless you. Knowledge of Scripture would never get you through what you are going through, "knowledge," of Him will not only get you through (my grace is sufficient for you) but it will actually strengthen you. Its amazing how when the Holy Spirit comes and we are comforted, He then uses Scripture to uphold us. This is the right order brother. I wanted to share this story with you, I pray that it will be a blessing to you.

http://scottishwarriors.wordpress.com/2008/02/13/anatomy-of-a-miracle/

Thank you for sharing about how "knowing," Jesus is taking you through this trial. When you surrender to this, when you are fully abandoned into His arms and "know," that the steps of a righteous man is ordered of God," you will go deeper into Him and know for a certain fact that you are not leaving this planet one second before the Lord deems it. You are His servant and the enemy has no power over you. He has a plan for you, and that plan will come to pass, we just have to surrender to the plan (cause its gonna happen anyway) You have my prayers.....brother Frank

Re: Testimony - posted by ChrisMo (), on: 2009/1/14 19:12
Just read I'm guessing it is your testimony?
Very encouraging. He is such a personal God! I have been able to draw near to God through this, although I know if I hadn't had that time with the Lord in the previous year, it would have been much harder. Everyday that you have doubts or fears, God is so faithful & within about a day He always comes back with a Word that you can hold onto, yesterday it was the book of Numbers where Caleb & Joshua had a different spirit & looked to God & His promises & not to what the y saw, they were the only two to inherit the promised land. God had been speaking to me 2 days before I was diagnosed with words like He wanted me to truly trust & believe what His word was for me & for my family.
A year earlier He gave me a word from one of Smith Wigglesworth's books:
It is nothing less than the life of the Lord Himself imparted and flowing into ChristineÂ’s whole being, so that ChristineÂ’s very body is quickened, so that every tissue, every drop of blood & ChristineÂ’s bones, joints and marrow receive this divine life. The Lord wants this divine life to flow right into ChristineÂ’s natural body. God wants to establish ChristineÂ’s faith so that Christine will grasp this divine life, this divine nature of the Son of God, so that ChristineÂ’s Â“spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus ChristÂ” (1 Thes 5:23)
I had written this word in my journal 11 months before I knew that anything was wrong. It is so relevant to where I'm at, as it talks about every drop of my blood & my marrow, which are both affected by lymphoma.
So nothing takes God by surprise, He is so big & so awesome.
Thanks Frank for your encouragement, I also got a card from a wonderful woman of God yesterday & one of the verses on it was The steps of a good woman are ordered by the Lord.
I have my bone marrow checked again on Monday, they are also taking stem cells out on Monday & then another CT scan on Wednesday & then back to see the specialist the week after.
The Holy Spirit has been drawing my son who is away from God back to Him again, I believe that God promised that fruit would come out of this & glory unto His wonderful Name.
Many blessings of our wonderful Lord & Saviour to you
Christine
ps. as you can see I'm a lady not a guy, the Chris can be confusing)

Re: , on: 2009/1/14 23:21
Hi Christine. I am glad that you got a confirmation from the woman of God about that Scripture. This is one of the great truths of Scripture, that we belong to Him and in the palm of His hand we dwell, despite the whispers from the enemy to the contrary. That story was one of the many testimonies of Gods grace in my life. Just one story in the great adventure of serving God. I have found Him to be faithful and true and never more so than in the very midst of extreme circumstances. At the very height of my chronic illness, I was so close to Him. Depeneding on Him for every breath that I took, I wrote his poem, trying to describe what His sufficient grace felt like........

I have been to a glorious land
That is far beyond what I had planned
Beyond this world and all itÂ’s dreams
That lies in the shadow of His Holy wings
General Topics :: Do you “know,” Jesus or do you know about Him?

I followed Him and we took flight
And He carried me on beyond the night
Through a Vail of darkness, pain and fear
My sweet Jesus was oh so near

Majesty, glory, praise to our King
There are no words that I can sing
That would fully express what He is to me
As He carried me across a majestic sea

Mountainous waves rose up to fight
Yet in His hand I was held so tight
Farther, farther, farther along
In an ocean of praise, and on the wings of a song

He took me to the promised land
And I lay down in the palm of His Hand
At the top of the mountain, at the bottom of the sea
in the darkest dungeon, no matter, for I am free

This freedom Christine goes beyond our circumstances as you are no doubt experiencing. When we can rejoice, like Paul, in the depths of the dungeons, then chains fall off and prison doors are open and to God be the glory. To be abandoned to God with our very lives brings us into the closest contact with Him, and leaves us hungry for more of Him, longing for the day that we join Him fully and are never separated again...Frank