



Steve Springsted | May 18, 2025
Guided by The Spirit of Truth to Know God

Jesus came to bring the true light to the world. (John 1:9). Later, the Apostle Paul prayed that we might be enlightened /illuminated. (Ephesians 1:18-19)

GOD WANTS US TO KNOW HIM

John 17:3 "This is eternal life, that they may know You"
Ephesians 1:18-19

The problem of a Gap

The problem of Jesus absence (John 17:7-8)

The problem of blindness (2 Corinthians 4:4)

The result: We cannot understand the thoughts of God.

PRAISE: GOD HAS OVERCOME THE PROBLEMS!

FIRST: He sent the Spirit of truth to guide us.

John 14:16-17

SECOND: God oversaw the writing and preservation of the Scripture, His Word, the Bible.

2 Peter 1:20-21

Mark 13:31

Isaiah 40:8

2 Timothy 3:16-17

What do we need to know God?

1) We need to hear from God in His Word, the Bible

Our core value: "The Bible is God's story, given to transform us and to be the authority in our lives."

2) We need the Holy Spirit to guide us into all the truth

A theological definition of "illumination"

Robert Reymond:

Walter Elwell:

THE PROMISES OF JESUS

John 14:25-26

John 15:26-27

John 16:13-14

The Bible describes two kinds of wisdom:

1- Worldly wisdom

2- God's wisdom

PAUL EXPLAINS THIS IN 1 Corinthians 2:7-16

Summary: The Holy Spirit knows the depths of God and illuminates us

- teaches us, guides us into all the truth (The truth of God)
- reminds us of things that God has said (The Bible)
- glorifies Jesus (makes Him known, magnifies Him)
- gives understanding and clarity to Scripture, reveals the deep wisdom of God
- gives us the "mind of Christ"

QUESTION: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN OUR LIVES?

FIRST: Since eternal life is knowing God, the Holy Spirit makes this possible by illuminating the Word of God.

1 Thessalonians 1:5; 2:13

Ephesians 3:16-19

WE NEED TO TREASURE AND IMMERSE OURSELVES IN GOD'S WORDS

SECOND, WE NEED TO DESIRE TO KNOW GOD ABOVE ALL THINGS

Tips and Truths in the pursuit of knowing God

- 1) **Seek God**, not information.
 - 2) **Surrender** your schedule.
 - 3) **Wait and watch** for the Spirit to lead.
 - 4) **Expect joy**. John 15:11
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APPENDIX: A PROMISE FROM JESUS

JOHN 14:21: Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

- 1) **Study God's Word every day.** Have a plan, take it into your heart.
- 2) **Trust** the Holy Spirit to teach you, to help you know the mind of God.
- 3) **Ask God** to help you see what He wants you to see. Own it.
- 4) **Plan** to obey and follow Jesus.
- 5) **Share something.** Encourage someone; delight in making Jesus known.

The blessings of having the Word of God in our hearts and minds

Joshua 1:8; Matthew 4:4; Luke 11:28; Psalm 1:1-3; 19:8; 119:9-11, 105; 2 Timothy 3:16; Romans 10:17; 15:4; Hebrews 4:12; John 15:11; 17:17; Ephesians 6:17; Colossians 3:16; Romans 1:16-17; 1 Peter 1:23; 2:2; 1 John 2:14

A start at memorizing and meditating on Scripture.

Three tips: (1) Read it out loud repeatedly (e.g. 50X) over a number of days. (2) Have a simple way to practice after you have read it out loud. For example, you can use 3x5 cards, use an app (e.g. AnkiMobile flashcards phone app (has a blue star), or read it into a recorder and listen to it, (3) share the verses with people, letting them know what God is teaching you.

Scriptures to "hide in your heart"

Exodus 34:6-7; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 63:4-5; 103:11-12; Proverbs 3:5,6; Matthew 11:28-30; John 3:3, 16; 10:10; 13:33-34; 14:6,12; 15:5; Romans 3:23; 5:8; 6:23; 8:1; 10:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 4:6-7; Revelation 21:3