

Can We Really Know God?

Yes we really can get to know God intimately.

How can I say this with such conviction?

From personal experience.

This is not a boast on my part because this is the relationship that the Creator God desires to have with every human being that will ever exist.

In fact, to know God is the very reason we as human beings have been given life.

Genesis 1:26-27 *“God said, let Us [The Father, Son and Holy Spirit] make humans in Our image and after Our likeness ... so God created humans in His Own image, male and female He created them.”*

Genesis 2:7 [NIV] *“God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living being.”*

Genesis 2:21-24 [NIV] *“God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, He took one of the man’s ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then God made a woman from the rib He had taken out of the man, and He brought her to the man. The man [Adam] said this is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called woman [for man] for she was taken out of man. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and they will become one flesh.”*

Note two things about the above statements of how human life began.

- 1 In this original physical creation **only** the image of God was formed, the likeness [character] of God was something to be formed in the future.
- 2 **Throughout** this process of creation a **very intimate theme flows**, God with humans and men with women.

Genesis 4:1 [King James Bible] *“And Adam **knew** Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain...”*

Here was “one flesh” being acted out to give birth to a new being.

John 17:3 [NIV] *“Now this is eternal life: that they may **know** you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”*

The Greek word translated “know” is also used in conjunction with a husband and wife becoming one flesh, the intimate relationship in marriage that results in the creation of a new being.

Here we have the key to the second part of God’s creation, how humans are to become beings in the “likeness” of God.

John 3:3 [NIV] *“In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is **born again**.”*

A new birth is the only way we may become a child of God, one in His likeness.

John 3:6 [NIV] *“Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.”*

Water – refers to two experiences that are related to our new birth.

a) **God's Word**

Ephesians 5:25-26 [NIV] *“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,”*

John 14:26 [NIV] *“But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”*

b) **Baptism**

Acts 2:38 [NIV] *“Peter replied, “Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is totally involved in both of these *“born again”* experiences for it is the active presence of the Holy Spirit in us that will create a new being that is acceptable to a Holy and righteous Creator God.

This new child is the result of an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit.

How this is brought about is revealed in other leaflets and booklets we publish and can be found on our website.

“Are We Ready To Receive The Holy Spirit?”

“How Are We Filled With The Holy Spirit?”