

What God Knows About You

What were we made for?

What aim should we set ourselves in life?

1 Corinthians 2:2 [NIV] *“For I resolved to **know nothing** while I was with you **except Christ Jesus and Him crucified.**”*

To know God was the first and foremost goal in Paul’s life.

What is eternal life?

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.**”*

What is it in life that will bring more joy and contentment than anything else?

Jeremiah 9:23 [NIV] *“This is what the Lord says: Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but **let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight.**”*

What does God desire most of us and what gives God most pleasure?

Hosea 6:6 [Living Bible] *“I don’t want your sacrifices, I want your love. I don’t want your offerings, I want you to know Me.”*

Coming to know God and coming to love God are linked.

1 John 4:19 [Living Bible] *“Our love for Him (God) comes as a result of His first loving us.”*

In these few sentences are provided a foundation, shape and goal for our lives, also a guide to our values and priorities.

Once we accept that the main goal in life is to know God, most of life’s problems will then fall into place.

Where do we start this lifetime quest to know God?

All our knowledge of God is based on and dependent on His initiative in knowing us.

I come to know God because He first knew me and continues to know me!

God knows me as a friend.

He loves me and there is no moment of time when His eye is off me or His attention distracted from me.

Therefore, I’m in His constant care.

Hebrews 4:13 [NIV] *“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”*

Psalms 147:5 [NIV] *“Great is our Lord and mighty in power; His understanding has no limit.”*

Nothing that happens to us is hidden from God and there is no limit to his understanding of us.

God knows everything.

There is no question God cannot answer, no problem that confuses Him, He is never surprised, never shocked.

What then is the scope of God’s knowledge?

God knows all about Himself

Such a statement may sound strange but not when we consider how little we really know about ourselves.

The reason we have so many problems is because we don’t know all about ourselves.

I’m constantly surprised about myself, things I thought I could do or knew when I don’t and can’t.

Or things I didn’t think I could do and found I could when I tried.

God knows Himself and knows He can do anything.

1 Corinthians 2:11 [NIV] *“For who among men knows the thoughts of a man, except man’s spirit within him? In the same way, no-one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.”*

As the Good News Bible puts it: *“Only God’s Spirit knows all about God.”*

God knows all about creation

Genesis 1:31 [Good News Bible] *“God looked at everything He had made and He was very pleased.”*

God sees and knows everything that He has made.

An amazing statement: every rock, drop of water, grain of sand, every microscopic germ, bacteria or electron.

Psalms 50:11 [NIV] *“I know every bird in the mountains and the creatures of the field are all mine.”*

Psalms 147:4 [NIV] *“He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.”*

Matthew 10:29-30 [NIV] *“Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.”*

Have you ever considered how many recounts are involved every moment?

God knows all about history:

The past:

Acts 15:18 [Living Bible] *“The Lord who reveals His plans, made from the beginning...”*

The present:

Proverbs 15:3 [Living Bible] *“The Lord is watching everywhere and keeps His eye on both the evil and the good.”*

The future:

Isaiah 46:10 [NIV] *“I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand and I will do all that I please.”*

God knows everything that has happened, is happening right now and everything that will happen, everything that could have happened but didn't, everything that can happen, but won't.

God knows the scope of human history from the beginning until the end.

What does God know about us, you and I, personally?

Psalms 139:1-4 [NIV] *“O Lord, you have searched me and know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord.”*

We may say and acknowledge that God knows everything about us but do we act as if we know this fact?

God knows all about my faults and failures

Psalms 69:5 [Good News Bible] *“My sins, O God, are not hidden from you; you know how foolish I have been.”*

We may consider this as bad news.

We would like to forget this fact for it makes us feel uncomfortable.

It can be frightening to recognise that I don't have any secrets from God.

To be honest, there are things about me and my past that I wish God didn't know.

Would you say the same thing?

Foolishly, when we do something wrong, we try to hide our sin, try to “sneak it past God”, put it in the cupboard with the other skeletons from the past and shut the door on them.

But God knows all that is behind that shut door!

Adam and Eve tried to do the same thing at the very beginning of human history.

After disobeying God's command and their realisation of what they had done, they tried to hide from God.

Genesis 3:8-9 [NIV] *“Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as He was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, Where are you?”*

Remember, when God asks a question it is **NOT** for information.

It is never for God’s benefit. God knew exactly where Adam and Eve were.

God wanted them to know where they were!

Proverbs 5:21 [NIV] *“For a man’s ways are in full view of the Lord and He examines all his paths.”*

We always have an audience.

Never do we say, think or do anything without God knowing.

Nothing we say is *“off the record”*. We are always in the spotlight, on stage.

That means that last week, when we were on our diet, God watched our late night visit to the fridge.

He even knew the weak excuses we were making in our mind as we ate that slice of chocolate gateau.

The devil places a thought in our mind at that moment: *“no-one will ever know”*.

Afterwards he says to us *“what if they find out”* – a much used thought to try and make us discouraged.

What if my parents find out what I’ve been doing?

What if my husband/wife got to know what has just happened?

What if my boss gets to know the mistake I’ve just made?

What if the Inland Revenue finds out about this deal?

I hate to tell you this but you’ve already been *“found out”* by the only one who really matters!

God knows and He is the one who really counts!

What does this mean for me?

God is **not** shocked by my sin.

He even saw it coming.

When we tell God about our sin, He already knows how we ended up in that situation when we may not even realise why.

What is my response to this fact?

Be honest with God. Just admit it!

I John 1:8 [NIV] *“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”*

We don’t deceive God, we only deceive ourselves if we think we have no sin.

The amazing thing is that although God knows all that I've done wrong, it never changes how He feels about me.

Romans 5:8 [NIV] *“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

He still loves me just as much, unconditionally. That means I don't have to hide my sins from God for Him to continue to love me. I admit my faults and failures to God for my own benefit, to face them and resist them in future, and not leave them as skeletons in that cupboard of my mind.

Proverbs 28:13 [NIV] *“He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.”*

Cover-ups never work for our good in the end.

God knows all my feelings and frustrations

Psalms 31:7 [Living Bible] *“You (God) have listened to my troubles and have seen the crisis in my soul.”*

There are times when we feel that nobody understands what we are experiencing.

Nobody listens to my troubles and needs.

But God always listens and feels with us.

Psalms 56:8 [Living Bible] *“You have seen me tossing and turning through the night. You have collected all my tears and preserved them in your bottle! You have recorded every one in your book.”*

There is no hurt that goes unnoticed by God.

We are not isolated in our physical or mental pain.

How does God respond to our hurt feelings and frustrations?

Psalms 103:13-14 [Living Bible] *“He [God] is like a father to us, tender and sympathetic ... for He knows we are but dust.”*

God created us so He knows exactly what it is like to be human with all its limitations, frustrations and pain.

Hebrews 2:17-18 [Living Bible] *“It was necessary for Jesus to be like us, His brothers, so that He could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God, a Priest who would be both merciful to us and faithful to God in dealing with the sins of the people. For since He Himself has now been through suffering and temptation, He knows what it is like when we suffer and are tempted and He is wonderfully able to help us.”*

God not only created us, but became like us in Jesus Christ to assure us He understands our feelings and frustrations, our hurts and pains.

Psalms 142:3 [Good News Bible] *“When I am ready to give up He (God) knows what I should do.”*

The fact is, God knows at all times just what will help me most.

What is my response to this?

If God sees all my hurts and frustrations then give them to Him.

God knows what caused them and He knows how to deal with them as a loving and merciful Father.

1 Peter 5:7 [Living Bible] *“Let Him [God] have all your worries and cares, for He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.”*

The Greek literally means to cast all our cares once and for all on God and not take them back.

God knows my future

Psalms 139:16 [Living Bible] *“You [God] saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book.”*

Jeremiah 29:11 [Living Bible] *“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, they are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”*

Everyone is interested in the future and it is interesting to me what people will try in an attempt to see what is ahead: astrology, horoscope, reading tea leaves or palms, biorhythms, etc., etc.

All these are the wrong source, for there is a guaranteed Person you can consult – God!

It is God who sees my tomorrows today.

What is my response to this fact?

God is not limited to time and space.

He can be in the past, present and future all at the same “time”.

The nearest we can experience to this is to travel in a hot air balloon and, at a certain height, we could look down and see the beginning and the end of a traffic jam on the M25 while on the ground we can sit, hot and frustrated, in the middle of it, not knowing what is up ahead.

The fact that God can see my tomorrows today gives me great confidence in His ability to guide me into my tomorrows.

God is already in my future preparing for everything I am going to face.

Nothing ever surprises God, for He is there in the future before it happens.

My response to this is to ask God for advice on what will happen in my tomorrows.

Jeremiah 33:3 [Living Bible] *“Ask Me [God] and I will tell you some remarkable secrets about what is going to happen.”*

The practical application of this is to go over each day’s schedule with God first thing in the morning, asking for the strength and wisdom to face all the things He already knows are going to happen to us.

God knows all my fears

God knows everything that makes us fearful.

Mostly this fear is for our physical needs to sustain life.

Matthew 6:31-33 [Living Bible] *“Don’t worry at all about having enough food or clothing. Why be like the heathen? For they take pride in all these things and are deeply concerned about them. But your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them and He will give them to you if you give Him first place in your life and live as He wants you to.”*

Matthew 6:8 [Living Bible] *“Remember, your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask Him.”*

God is always aware of our financial need but so often we act as if He were ignorant of it and worry ourselves into illness.

Worry is the result of not realising that God is totally aware of all our fears that our needs will not be met.

Worry is the result of assuming responsibility for things God never intended us to be totally responsible for.

It is my opinion that the basis of every emotional problem people are plagued with is **not** understanding the attributes of God, who God is and what He does and His unlimited power and desire to care for us, the pinnacle of His creation.

What should our response be?

Philippians 4:6, 19 [Living Bible] *“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don’t forget to thank Him for His answers ... for, it is He who will supply all your needs from His riches in glory because of what Jesus Christ has done for us.”*

God is aware of and will provide for all our needs, physical, spiritual, sexual, social and emotional.

Prayer is never giving God information about our needs. We pray to get the answer to our needs by asking Him.

James 4:2-3 [Living Bible] *“The reason you do not have what you want is that you do not ask God for it. And even when you do ask,, you don’t get it because your whole aim is wrong. You want only what will give you pleasure.”*

Don’t panic! Pray!

God knows all about my faithfulness

Every time I choose to do the right thing, God is watching.

Every time I resist sinning, God notices.

Every time I stand by my convictions, God applauds.

Matthew 6:1,3-4 [NIV] *“Be careful not to do your ‘acts of righteousness’ before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven ... But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”*

Every good deed will be rewarded, regardless of how insignificant, even when no-one else sees or acknowledges it.

Every bit of encouragement we give to others, every smile, every kind word, every thoughtful act done for another, every act of generosity, physical or mental, every time we had the opportunity to gossip and declined, every time we could have been critical and restrained ourselves or responded encouragingly, God is there at the time and sees every little thing.

Imagine ourselves alone on a stage with the spotlight on us and in the audience is only one person, God.

We are acting out our life before God and He is clapping, saying *“I see that good thing you did, well done, keep on going, nobody else saw it but I did”*.

More and more in my life I’m trying to live out my life to an audience of one, Jesus Christ.

It doesn’t really matter how I appear in public, what is important is how I am in private, when only God sees.

It has been said *“Character is what we are in the dark when only God is watching.”*

What is important is the integrity in our lives when no-one is looking – because there is someone looking: God!

God is out there in the audience saying, *“Well done, my child.”*

Galatians 6:9-10 [NIV] *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”*

Matthew 10:42 [NIV] *“And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”*

What then is my response?

Realising that God knows everything about my life is either very disturbing or very comforting.

It all depends on the relationship I have with God.

In which of the five areas discussed have we been acting as if God were not aware of everything that happens?

God knows:

- All my faults and failures
- All my feelings and frustrations
- All my future
- All my fears
- All my faithfulness

The most amazing thing in life is that nobody knows me like God knows me, yet nobody loves me like God loves me.

To me this is a powerful incentive for me to get to know God more than I do right now.

I believe that the more I come to know God, the greater and closer will be our relationship.

The ultimate relationship that any created being can ever have, a relationship that can continue to become more and more intimate throughout eternity.

I invite you to join me on this exciting quest to forge this eternal relationship.