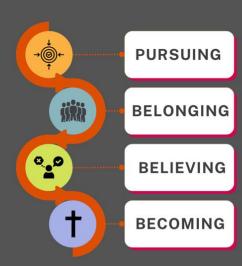
GOD HIMSELF

Christian Knowledge & Living

Jeffrey Crews

9/22/2024

MY NEXT STEPS





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Christian Knowledge

This is about knowing what God has revealed to us about who he is and what is important to him and how he revealed himself in Jesus Christ.

Christian Living

This is about how we are to respond to God's presence in our lives. How to know him, pray, use his word, and worship him

Growth in Christ

Christian Training

This is about the how to's: How can I share the gospel with others?; How can I be hospitable? The answers to these questions will change as culture changes, but, we need to "be prepared to make a defense for the hope that is us" when God gives the opportunity.

Christian Serving

This is about serving and doing and practicing what we have learned. It is about how do we work together in the church to do God's will.

"I will never capture, in between my ears, the infinite mind of God" John MacArthur

Know and Understand God

- ∘ John 17:3
- ∘ Jeremiah 9:23-24
- Hosea 6:6
- 1 Corinthians 13:12
- ∘ Isaiah 29:13



 God is not a concept or conversation topic, but a person. There is no worship experience apart from knowing God on His terms through His relationship with you. We can't understand how God..., but we can understand that God...



God is

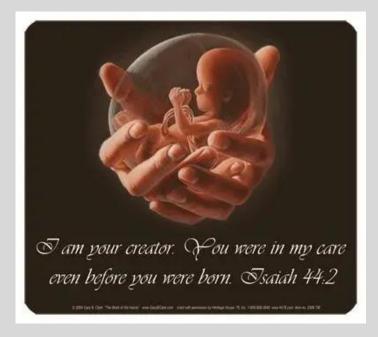
- Job 38:1-4 and 16-18 and 25-27 and 39:26-29
- ∘ Genesis 1:1
- Exodus 3:13-14

• God is right there. Give yourself time to experience the weight of that reality if you never have. Imagine the real time back when no humans were on the earth and realize God was there. It's more than head knowledge. The substance of God is not of this universe, and yet today in this room, God says "I AM."

God is designer

∘ Genesis 2:7

∘ Psalm 139:13-14



- God is the designer of humans. He made the innerworkings of body and spirit and knit both into one to make you. He made us so that we thrive when we are being a joy to Him and when we enjoy being with Him. So He is the only right recipient of our worship, adoration, and obsession.
- Recommended reading: Isaiah 43:7-8, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Colossians 3:17, Psalm 16:11, Psalm 40:8

God is Unchangeable, Truthful, and Clear

Malachi 3:6

Isaiah 45:19

• Psalm 33:11

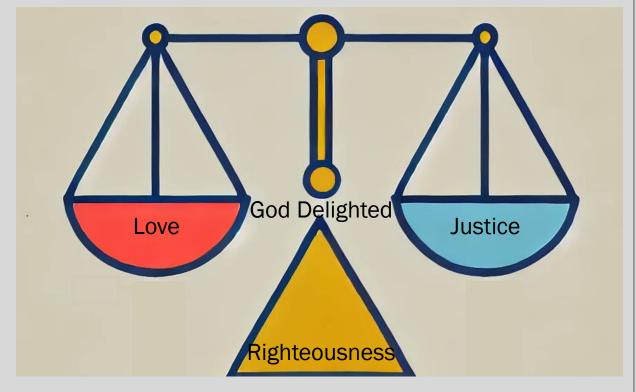
- God cannot lie. God cannot fail to communicate. God cannot contradict himself. God cannot alter His perfect nature. His nature is the antithesis of these things.
- Recommended reading: Numbers 23:19 and James 1:17

God is in control

- omnipotent Colossians 1:16-17, Romans 13:1, Ephesians 1:11, Job 1:21
 - God is in control of all powers, cosmic and political. God gives and takes away.
- Omnibenevolent Romans 8:28, Genesis 50:20
 - God is in control of all good and bringing about good from the bad.
- Omniscient Proverbs 15:3, Hebrews 4:13, 1 John 3:20
 - God is in control of all information.
- o Omnipresent Jeremiah 23:23-24, Acts 17:27-28
 - God is in all places with that control.

God is Righteous, Just, and Loving

- Jeremiah 9:24
- Isaiah 64:6
- Romans 5:8-9
- Romans 3:25
- John 3:36



• God is the superior and always right. God takes your case when you are a victim and He takes their case when they are hurt and point the finger at you. He is rightly wrathful toward both your offenders and your offences. He is merciful and kind to cover the guilty with the one and only protection from condemnation. He enjoys the obedience of His forgiven loved ones who enjoy obeying Him.

Discussion Questions Round 1

• Considering that I am created, and God is my creator, what does this truth say about the difference between the way He is and the way I am? Can I know better than Him about the best way for me to flourish and navigate life, meaning, and feelings?

• Considering God knows that, one my own, even my best life is the same as a polluted rag, what does this say about God's love and His choosing me? What does this have to do with my reason to want to please Him?

Discussion Questions Round 2

• Considering that God is unchangeable, truthful and clear, what effect does that have on how relevant His scriptures are? How should we treat the scriptures then?

• When the Bible tells us details about God we didn't know before, is there any shame in dropping the ideas about God that don't fit with His scriptures as a whole? Explain?

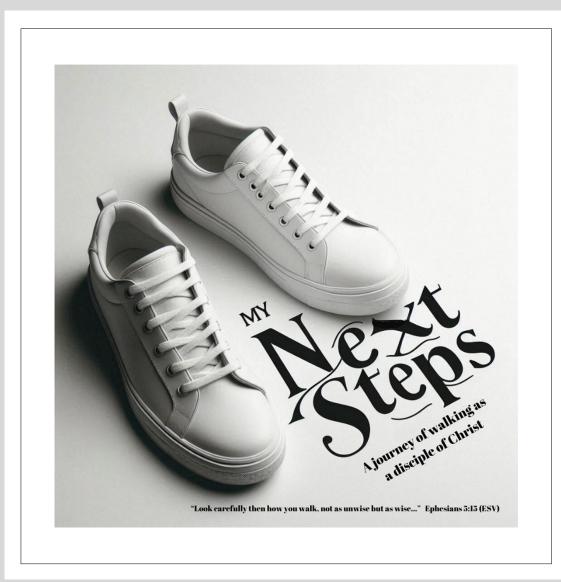
Discussion Questions Round 3

• As the designer who made humans in His image. Which of His attributes does God want us to imitate?

• Which of God's attributes is wrong for us to claim that we possess?

Common Q&As

- Since God allows evil or tragedy, does that mean that He wills that it happen?
 - Job 6:4 and Job 42:7
- When God wills the occasion of evil, does that mean He devising or contriving the evil?
 - Isaiah 45:7, Exodus 4:11, Amos 3:6, Ezekiel 7:5-6, James 1:13, Romans 9:22-23
- If God is everywhere, does that mean He is inside terrorist headquarters, drug dens, and brothels?
 - Proverbs 15:3
- Since God always conveys His will appropriately and never fails to communicate, why are some things He says hard to understand?
 - Matthew 13:10-13, 2 Peter 3:16
- Since Christ permanently pardons a person, does that mean God starts feeling indifferent to my ungodly moments?
 - Ephesians 4:30



| | | | Christian Knowledge & | Living | |
|----------|------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| FALL | | | | | |
| Date | Step | Topic | Description | Resource | Teacher |
| 9/8/24 | 1 | Assessment | Joint Session | Assessment | Dave Baker |
| | 2 | Read My Next Steps | | | |
| 9/15/24 | 3 | God's Word | God's Word is how we know what is true. Because he has told us. | Christian Beliefs Ch 1 | Tony Guzman |
| 9/22/24 | 4 | God himself | Who is God? What is he like? What is important to him? | Christian Beliefs Ch 2 | Jeffrey Crews |
| | 5 | Action Step | | | |
| 9/29/24 | 6 | What is the Trinity? | What does it mean that God is three Persons, yet one God? | Christian Beliefs Ch 3 | Dave Baker |
| | | | | | |
| 10/6/24 | | | Break | | |
| | | | M/ba ara bumana aunmaaad ta | | |
| 10/13/24 | 7 | Man and his sin | Who are humans supposed to be? What happened to us walking with God? | Christian Beliefs Ch 7 & 8 | Emiliano Romero |
| 10/20/24 | 8 | Christ and Salvation | Who is Jesus Christ? What has | Christian Beliefs Ch 9 & 10 | Tony Guzman |
| | | | he done for us? | | |
| 10/27/24 | 9 | Salvation and me | What happens when I am saved? | Christian Beliefs Ch 13-15 | Vic Rosenbaum |
| | | | | | |
| 11/3/24 | 10 | What is the church? | How do we live with other believers? | Christian Beliefs Ch 17 | Steve Shenk |
| | | | | | |
| 11/10/24 | 11 | Can I be sure that I am saved? | Having assurance of your salvation | Growing in Christ, Ch 1 | Bryan Rosenbaum |
| | 12 | Action Step | | | |
| 11/17/24 | 13 | Assurance of Answered Prayer | How to pray | Growing in Christ, Ch 2 | Tony Guzman |
| L1/24/24 | 14 | Assurance of Victory | God promises to help | Growing in Christ, Ch 3 | Isaac Tuckey |
| | | | | | |
| 12/1/24 | 15 | Assurance of Forgiveness | God does forgive us completely | Growing in Christ, Ch 4 | Dave Baker |