KNOWING JESUS CHAPTER 1: BEGINNING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD PART 1

Overall objective of this Workshop:

Participants will have an understanding of the importance of having a relationship with our Lord Jesus; and will know how to develop this relationship.

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CHAPTER 1 - PART 1 TITLE: BEGINNING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Things you should known as you begin this process: a process of developing your personal relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

- 1. This is a very successful process.
- 2. You will examine yourself.
- 3. This is private, between you and God.
- 4. You can share with another Christian.
- 5. Be completely honest with yourself.
- 6. You will get out of this teaching exactly what you put into it...give 100%.
- 7. This book is designed to teach you how to get into your personal relationship with Jesus.

First, ask yourself, how do you feel about your relationships with others?

Take the time to:

- 1. Learn from your past relationships.
- 2. Discover your strengths / weaknesses.
- 3. Bring your weaknesses to God and ask Him to change you. Surrender them.
- 4. Remember, you can't go forward if you're stuck in the past.
- 5. Know for certain, your past doesn't determine your future.
- 6. God doesn't compare you to others.
- 7. Trust God in all areas of your life.

Key: Build your solid relationship with God first; then you will have successful relationships with others

Scriptures:

- Colossians 3:13-15 (NKJV) 13bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do.* 14But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.
- Hebrews 13:5 (NKJV) 5Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."
- Genesis 1:26 (NKJV) 26Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

The most important relationship you will ever have in your life is your relationship with God.

You need to realize:

- 1. This process is a day-by-day process.
- 2. You must be diligent and determined.
- 3. IF YOU ALWAYS DO WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE YOU'LL ALWAYS BE RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!
- 4. Let God bring about the change in your life. You are His creation, His child.

BASIC CHRISTIAN BELIEFS

There are basic foundational truths you need to know:

- God exists
- 2. The Bible is God's inspired Word.
 - 2 Timothy 3:16 (NKJV) 16 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,
- 3. Jesus is God's only begotten Son; Jesus is the Messiah, our Savior

Romans 10:9-10 (NKJV) 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Without accepting Jesus as your Savior, you cannot have a relationship with God

John 14:6 (NKJV) 6Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Faith in Jesus Christ is the basis for everything in our Christian walk.

Faith believes God's Word

Mark 11:23-24 (NKJV) 23For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

Romans 1:17 (NKJV) 17For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Matthew 4:4 (NKJV) 4But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."

Why do you need to study God's Word?

Knowing God's Word is your key to having a strong inward affection for God, which will strengthen your faith.

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. (Romans 10:17)

The Bible is your source for knowing God and learning His ways.

You have a choice: do you want to know God personally? If you do, then you need to study His Word.

As you progress through each chapter, you need to:

- 1. Be comfortable, relax.
- 2. Trust God to do the change that's needed.
- 3. Your job is to be willing let God do the work. His Word will change you.

Scriptures:

Romans 8:1 (NKJV) 1*There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Romans 3:23 (NKJV) 23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Psalm 118:29 (NKJV) 29 Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for *He is* good! For His mercy *endures* forever.

FORGIVENESS

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:7-15 (NKJV) 7And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8"Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. 9In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 **And forgive us our** trespasses, As we forgive those who have trespassed against us. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. 14"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

You must forgive others and forgive yourself... let the past go. Let go of unforgiveness and bitterness.

Romans 6:23 (NKJV) 23For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Spiritual Death: is the separation of the human spirit from God...(Hagin: Love, The way to Victory, p.46)

<u>Unforgiveness is sin</u>. It is proven by research that anger, bitterness, etc., causes sickness and disease.

PRAYER

Some important points about prayer:

- 1. Prayer is communicating with God.
- 2. Express yourself from your heart.
- 3. Talking with God.
- 4. Talk with God like you talk with your family and friends.
- 5. Be yourself.
- 6. Spend time with God.
- 7. Building your relationship with God.

BIBLE STUDY

Facts you need to know:

- 1. God gave His Word to His anointed men, who wrote it down.
- 2. Those who wrote it down, were lead and inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- 3. You can get to know God through His Word.
- 4. Always pray, asking God for wisdom and revelation before you begin reading His Word.
- 5. Have a daily plan to read and study His Word.
- 6. You have to learn skills for a job; you learn in school...God is most important in our lives ...study His Word and learn about Him!
- 6. Bible: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!

ATTEND CHURCH REGULARLY

Hebrews 10:25 (NKJV) 25not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another,* and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Remember:

- 1. Obedience brings blessings.
- 2. Christians need to come together. We can teach each other, help each other, and pray for each other.
- 3. We can comfort and encourage each other.

SALVATION

Make a decision right now:

- 1. Now is the time this is your opportunity
- 2. Do you want to accept Jesus as your Savior?
- 3. Do you want to be a part of God's family?
- 4. Have you lost your first love your love for God?
- 5. Do you need to restore/renew your relationship with God?
- 6. Peace that words cannot describe; joy unspeakable.
- 7. If you aren't sure, come forward now and come to Jesus.

BLESSING ... PLEASE STAND

Father, bless us and keep us; make Your face to shine upon us; give us grace that is exceedingly great and peace that is beyond understanding; give us hope in the mighty name of Jesus; give us joy that makes us rich and adds no sorrow, and allow us, heavenly Father, to endure to the end, that we may indeed see that You are merciful and Your loving kindness is better than life. We thank You that You are not slack concerning Your promises but that each and every Christian is sealed in the blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us, who has set us free and given us the victory. In Jesus' Name, we walk in triumph.