

KNOWING JESUS

GOD CREATED US TO BE IN RELATIONSHIP
WITH HIM
CHAPTER 2

Presented by:

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I. Review

- ▣ Chapter 1: Beginning A Relationship with God
 1. God created us to fellowship with us
 2. God has a perfect plan for each of our lives
 3. Christian Beliefs
 4. Completely surrender yourself to God
 5. Put God first in your life.
 6. This is a personal decision for each of us
 7. Forgive others
 8. Forgive yourself
 9. Learn from past relationships
 10. There is tremendous peace, joy and victory

Chapter 2:

God Created Us to be in Relationship with Him

1. Building a relationship involves communication
2. God desires to be in a close relationship with us
3. Sin separates us spiritually from God
 - **Romans 5:12**...¹²Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned
 - **Romans 6:23**²³For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 - **John 3:16-17**¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Important points:

1. It's absolutely clear God loves us and wants us to know Him
2. Jesus Christ died for you – that you may have eternal life
3. Each person has a choice – it's a personal decision
4. God does not want you to struggle. He'll comfort you and guide you.
5. You need to ask God for His help.
6. Experience is a wonderful, yet sometimes painful, teacher.
7. God has given each of us free will.

Hindrances that try to block you from developing your relationship with God.

1. Pride – a basic factor for a self destructing life
2. A hard wall – to protect oneself from being hurt
3. Lack of belief that God loves you (false statements)

Hebrews 13:5-6...⁵*Let 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.”* ⁶So we may boldly say:

“The LORD is my helper;

I will not fear.

What can man do to me?”

Luke 15:11-32...Parable of the Prodigal Son...

¹¹Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to *his* father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls *to me*.’ So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”’

²⁰“ And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²²“ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. ²³And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

KEY POINT: To know God is to know His love for us

Hindrances, continued...

1. Not having God first in your life – God is a God of order.
2. Matthew 6:33-34...³³But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.
3. God will meet our “need” – not “greed”
4. Trust God
5. Obedience brings blessings
6. Not tithing – tithes go to the church you attend. Every Christian needs to put down roots and attend a church regularly. That’s where his tithes need to be given – regularly.

Hindrance , continued:

Tithing: you cannot reap where you have not sown.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8...⁶But this *I say*: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷*So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.* ⁸And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work.

Luke 6:38...³⁸Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

Key Point: Give cheerfully: God loves a cheerful giver.

III. Conclusion

The secular world has a system that will lead you to complete destruction. Be careful, don't be lead by your emotions.

Type of entertainment: Music, TV, video, computers, movies. What do you do in your spare time? It makes a huge difference.

Remember:

Out of your heart, will come your thoughts: and ...

Your thoughts become your words,

Your words become your actions

Your actions become your habits

Your habits become your character

Your character determines your destiny

1. Be lead by your spirit, not by your emotions/feelings.
2. Choose good entertainment.
3. Choose Christians for your close friendships.

Key: Awareness is essential if you are going to have victory in making better choices. Making better choices brings victory in your life!

You are worth it!

KEY: Pick up your cross and follow Jesus.

Luke 9:23-26...²³Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. ²⁴For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? ²⁶For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His *own* glory, and *in His* Father’s, and of the holy angels.