

## KNOWING GOD

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**A**s believers, knowing God is the most important pursuit of our lives. It is only through knowing God that we can experience true joy, peace, and fulfillment in this life. Our relationship with God is the most important aspect of our lives; it is a relationship that requires constant nurturing and growth. One of the ways we can grow in our relationship with God is knowing Him through His Word.

We believe that the Bible is not just a book of stories, but a living and active guide that can transform our lives if we allow it to. It is through the Scriptures that God reveals Himself to us and shows us His plans and purposes for our lives. In fact, the Bible itself tells us in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Spending time in God's Word requires a deliberate effort on our part. We need to prioritize time each day to read, study, meditate on, and apply the teachings of the Bible in our lives. We need to approach the Bible with a hunger and thirst for God's truth and a willingness to be transformed by it.

In Psalm 119:105, the psalmist writes, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." The Bible is like a lamp that illuminates our path, guiding us through the

dark and uncertain times of life. As we spend time in God's word, we gain wisdom and insight that helps us navigate the challenges we face.

Spending time in God's Word helps us to know God's character and attributes. We learn about His love, His mercy, His justice, His holiness and His grace. When we spend time in God's Word and obey His commands, we demonstrate our love for Him, and He reveals Himself to us in deeper and more meaningful ways. In John 14:21, Jesus says, "Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Knowing God through His Word also helps us to discern His will for our lives. In Romans 12:2, the apostle Paul writes, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." As we read and study the Bible, our minds are renewed and our hearts are aligned to God's will. We gain clarity and direction for our lives, and we are empowered to make decisions that honor Him.

Fighting for our time with God and His Word is an essential part of our spiritual growth and maturity. In 1 Peter 2:2, the apostle Peter writes, "Like

newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation." As we spend time in God's Word, we are nourished and strengthened in our faith. We grow in our understanding of God's truth, and we are equipped to share it with others.

Knowing God through His Word is a journey that requires our wholehearted commitment and effort. Let us strive to make it a priority, that we may come to know Him more deeply, discern His will for our lives, and grow in our spiritual maturity. As we do so, we will be transformed by His truth and empowered to live out His purposes for us. May our pursuit of knowing God be fueled by a hunger and thirst for His truth and a desire to bring glory to His name.✠

