

# Can We Know God Personally?

The Big Seven, part 7  
Pastor Dave Nichols, June 9, 2019

## What Kind of Relationship Does God Want?

1. He wants to be \_\_\_\_\_  
(Matthew 6:9, Mark 14:36, Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:6)

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ kind of  
relationship.  
(Revelation 3:20)

### The Table:

1. A place of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Luke 10:38-42)

2. A place of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Luke 15:11-32)

3. A place of \_\_\_\_\_  
(John 18:15-18, John 21:9-19)

4. A place of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Luke 5:27-32)

5. A place of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Isaiah 25:6, Luke 14:12-24, Revelation 19:9)

## This weeks discussion guide:

Welcome to our final week of our Spring small group season! We have been praying with and for you over the past 6 weeks that you have drawn near to God and each other as you have studied His Word together. There are many things happening this summer, and we encourage you to be involved in those events. We also encourage you to get together for meals, beach days, or other activities during the summer to stay connected.

### Getting Started:

We as people are designed for relationships. We are designed to be in relationships with others as well as our creator God. It is sometimes difficult to think about a relationship with God because we can't see Him or hear Him, and yet the Bible invites us to the table with Him.

To start our discussion this week, we're going to watch two videos and discuss them. The first one is the 2.5 minute video that was shown last Sunday that is a survey of many people's responses to this week's question. The second video is a 10 minute video that is a collection of people discussing this weeks question. This video displays the various questions, struggles and perspectives of these individuals regarding this week's topic.

From the message last Sunday, what insights were helpful and/or what questions were raised for you?

How were you encouraged, challenged, stretched, confused, etc.?

## Watch 1st video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kx1ar0vliYE&feature=youtu.be>

- Did you identify with anyone's expressed views in the film? If so, who and what resonated with you?
- Is it surprising that 75 percent of adults desire a close relationship with God? Why or why not?
- In your opinion what keeps people from having that close relationship with God that they desire?

## Watch 2nd video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYTFoRwwi8M&feature=youtu.be>

- In what ways can you identify with any of the stories in *The Curiosity Collective*? What did you find intriguing or compelling?
- Propoganda (Hip Hop Artist) stated that "sin...has broken that covenant with God." What do you think he meant by that? What is the "covenant" to which he refers?
- In the video, Pete said, "Jesus made it possible for our sins to be removed because his blood was spotless; He was a perfect sacrifice for us." How could Jesus be perfect? What are the implications of that?
- How have you developed your personal relationship with God?
- Matthew 7:7 says that if we seek, we will find; if we knock, the door will be opened. What might this mean for us?
- How can we help other people grow in their personal relationships with God? Is it our job to do this?

## Further Discussion:

### Read the following passage Jeremiah 31:33-34

How does the reference to "write it on their hearts" in verse 33 contribute to our understanding of a close relationship with God?

How does the possessive reference to "their God" and "my people" contribute to our understanding of a close relationship with God?

From verse 34 we see that God desires first-hand knowledge of Him rather than second-hand. What is second-hand knowledge of God?

What hinders you from deepening your relationship with God?

How does an intimate relationship with God bring joy to the soul? How have you seen this lived out in your own life?

Why does God desire to know us personally?

If you believe the Bible is from God, what lead you to this conviction?