

DO YOU KNOW HIM? REALLY KNOW HIM?

Many assumptions are made about educators, some good and some not so good. Sometimes parents think they know our motives, our thoughts, and even our heart conditions! They may know various facts about us and even some things we have said or done, but my guess is they don't REALLY know us. Assumptions people make when they think they know someone can be quite dangerous. We see this vividly when Jesus spoke to His followers.

Read [Matthew 7:21-23](#).

Why did people think they knew Jesus? What were they doing?

Today there are thousands who know about Jesus. They know some facts about Him, they might commit some Bible verses to memory, and perhaps they even attend church. However, facts are not enough. Something else must be evident in their lives. ***What did Jesus expect of those who truly knew Him?***

Sometimes we think if we "do the right thing" God will accept us, and then we will know him better. However, it simply does not work that way. Jesus explained the problem by quoting Isaiah.

Read [Matthew 15:8](#).

What was of greatest concern to Jesus?

It can be easy to substitute religion for a genuine relationship with Jesus. We often think that if we are doing "Christian things," that's all that counts. We can appreciate the facts of Jesus' death and resurrection, but until we have made Him our Lord, the facts do us no good. The Bible says we are saved by FAITH, not by works. It is by being in relationship with Him that we grow to truly know Him. ([Ephesians 2:8](#); [Romans 10:10](#))

Read [Acts 2:38-39](#).

The early church grew because people wanted to REALLY know Jesus. What a good God we have who wants to know us, too! ***Who did He promise to send to those who believe?***

Through the presence of the Holy Spirit we grow in knowledge, not just head knowledge but heart knowledge. To know Him is to enter into a relationship. The greatest commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength" ([Matthew 22:37](#)). It's hard to love someone you don't know. The nature of God is so vast and complex that no human being can fully know everything there is to know about Him. Life is about continually seeking Him, learning more about Him, and enjoying His fellowship.

Father, I want to know you, REALLY know you. Thank you wanting to know me and for sending Jesus to die for my sins so that I can spend eternity with you. May my life reflect Christ so that others can come to know you as well. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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