

KNOWING GOD

Theme verse (let's memorize)

John 17:3 (NIV) *"Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."*

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) *I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death*

1st Gear: Knowing About Christ

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) *I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death*

2nd Gear: Knowing His Resurrection Power

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) *I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,*

Colossians 3:1 (NIV) *Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.*

"Our task is to understand Him as He has chosen to reveal Himself, not as we think He ought to be." Dr. Erwin Lutzer, Ten Lies About God.

3rd Gear: Knowing Christ in Suffering

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) *I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,*

- **Job:** had it all, yet after he lost everything and suffered greatly, and God eventually allowed him to prosper again. Here's Job's response about how he came to KNOW God more through suffering:

Job 42:5 (NIV) *My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.*

- **Stephen:** after he was arrested for preaching about Jesus, the religious leaders dragged him out of the city to kill him. And in Acts 7:55 it tells us
Acts 7:55 (NIV) *But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.*

How can we know God more in our Suffering?

- Not my will but yours be done (Mark 14:32-42).
- God gets our attention in suffering (Philippians 3:5-11)
- We become more dependent on God (John 15:5)
- Our priorities change when we suffer (Romans 5:3-5).

Colossians 1:24 (NIV) *Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you...*

"I learn to kiss the waves that throw me up against the rock of ages." -Charles Spurgeon

4th Gear: Knowing Christ in Death

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) *I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.*

Galatians 2:20 (NIV) *I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) *I want to **know** Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.*

1st Gear: Knowing About Christ

2nd Gear: Knowing His Resurrection Power

3rd Gear: Knowing Christ in Suffering

4th Gear: Knowing Christ in Death

*"We can only worship someone we love, and we can only love someone we know." -David Jeremiah, *The God You May Not Know**