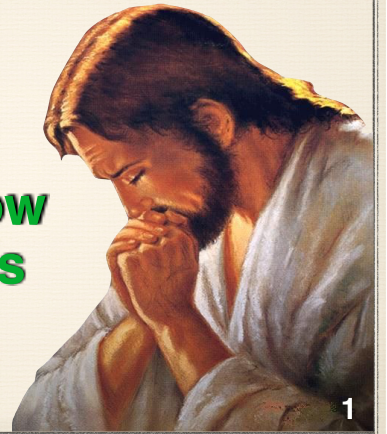


# THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

John 17:1-12  
Lesson #57  
Knowing God  
01/22/2017

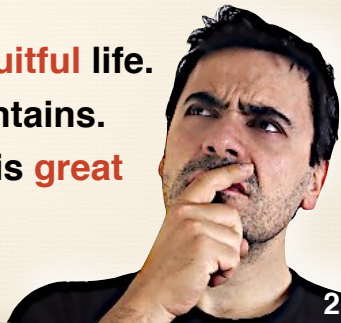
Did you know  
that Jesus is  
praying for  
you?



1

What would you expect him to be  
petitioning the Father for?

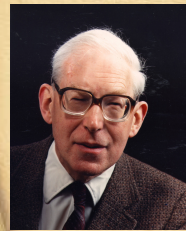
- A **happy** and fulfilling life.
- The realization of the **desires** of your heart.
- A significant and **fruitful** life.
- **Faith** to move mountains.
- The fulfillment of his **great commission**.
- **Discipline** to follow God's Laws.



2

**J. I. Packer**

(author of "Knowing God")



““There is  
nothing more  
irreligious than  
self-absorbed  
religion.”

3

What would you expect him to be  
petitioning the Father for?

**John 17 gives  
us a clue!**



4

*John 17:1*

“These things Jesus  
spoke; and lifting up  
His eyes to heaven,  
He said, . . .”

**Jesus High priestly prayer  
(John 17)**

- The true “Lord’s Prayer.”

5



### Three requests

“... Father, the hour has come: glorify Thy Son, that the Son may glorify Thee, 2 even as Thou hast given Him authority over all mankind, that to all whom Thou hast given Him, He may give eternal life, **that they may know Thee**, 3 true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.. **keep them in Thy name**, that they may be one, even as Thou art one.”

2

1

3

• Purity vs 12-19

• Unity vs 20-26

13 But now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy made full in themselves. 14 I have given them Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth. 18 As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth, him, and I in them.”

20 I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me. 22 And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, that the world may know that Thou didst send Me, and didst love them, even as Thou didst love Me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am, in order that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me; for Thou didst love Me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, although the world has not known Thee, yet I have known Thee; and these have known that Thou didst send Me; 26 and I have made Thy name known to them, and will make it known; that the love wherewith Thou didst love Me may be in them, and I in them.”

6

### Jesus 1st request

**May they know the Father and Son and share the glory (eternal life) that is given through them.**

### Jesus 2nd request

**While in the world, keep them from stumbling (being seduced by it).**

### Jesus 3rd request

**Unite them with Us and Our family.**

7

### Eternal Life

Not  
time oriented (not time without end)

But  
conscience oriented  
(awareness without limits)

### Union with God

“to know  
as we are fully known”

8

“God is more widely known by repute than by acquaintance.”

9

## Knowing God

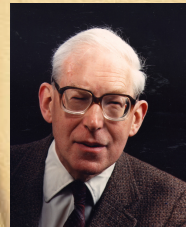
is not only:

- having spiritual experiences
- being a person of prayer
- knowing about God
- knowing the Bible
- being religious
- doing ministry

10

### J. I. Packer

(author of “Knowing God”)



“A little knowledge of God is worth more than a great deal of knowledge about him”

11



## Knowing God

is:

- mirroring the heart and mind of God.
- being captivated by the Glory (beauty, goodness, and power) of God.

12

## Knowing God

(Eternal Life)

Intimacy  
with God

Purity in  
the world

Unity in  
the Spirit

# HOLLINESS

13

## Knowing God

is:

- being separated unto God from the inside out.
- the incentive to be separated from the world's values.
- the integration of God's Spirit into our lives, making us one with Him and His church.

14

**Paul's prayer  
echoes Jesus' prayer.**

*Ephesians 1*

"<sup>15</sup> For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you, and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup> do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him."

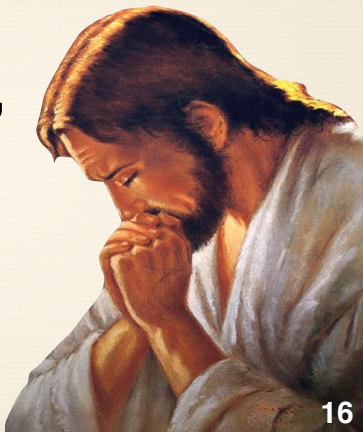
15

## Consider

What does it  
mean to ask,  
"in Jesus  
name"?

*Matthew*

"Knock and the door will be opened, seek and you will find."



16

*Ephesians 4*

"<sup>11</sup> And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. . . . <sup>15</sup> but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,"

**Bringing people to know Christ  
is the principle mission  
of the church.**

17



## Consider

*What do you pray for and expect from Christian worship & fellowship?*

**- Wisdom to know God**  
*more than comfort for this life.*

**- Truth that may be hard to hear**  
*and love that reflects Christ's priorities.*

18

## Philippians 3

"<sup>8</sup> More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, . . . <sup>10</sup> that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; <sup>11</sup> in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead."

**Knowing Christ requires stepping away from other things.**

19

## Consider

*It is hard to know God if you never really need Him except as fire insurance.*

**When you suffer loss**  
*this may be an opportunity to know God.*

**When you are materially blessed**  
*consider the challenge that it may be to keeping you from knowing God.*

20

## I John 4

"<sup>20</sup> If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also."

**Knowing God means that we love those whom God loves.**

21

## Consider

*If we do not love those whom God loves, we do not really know God.*

**Seeking community with and through God's family**  
*is a path to knowing God.*

22

## How do we Know God (in but not of the world)



- **Watching and learning** - We get to know God as we watch and listen to those who do.
- **Abiding in the Vine** - We get to know God as we integrate His Spirit into every area of our lives.
- **Prayer & Worship** - We get to know God as we renew our lives through worship and prayer.
- **Service** - We get to know God as we engage with Him in His work.

23