

# God is to be worshipped

*Is it possible that I can know God?*

## Really knowing who God is

### **Having knowledge about God is very valuable and useful.**

It means that we are better informed so that we can listen more carefully to what people say about God and know whether what they are saying is right or not. But, as we have seen already, we are to know God for ourselves, and have a personal relationship with Him, rather than simply know about Him.

We have also seen in a previous study the essential role that Jesus Christ shares in our knowing God. Also, how we can only have a relationship with God by being forgiven of our sins – which is something Jesus Christ alone can do for us through His death upon the cross.

We could also say that everything we know about God is meant to make us worshippers of God.

*Look up John 4 vv.23-24 and write in the space what this has to say:*

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*Find John 20 v.28 and write down what Thomas said when He saw the risen Lord Jesus Christ:*

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*Next look up the words, quoting the Old Testament, which the Lord Jesus used when tempted by the devil in Matthew 4 v.10:*

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So what does it mean to be a worshipper of God?

**A worshipper of God is a converted person**

**A worshipper is someone who has been converted.** It is a person who has seen their personal need of salvation and has turned to the Lord Jesus Christ in repentance and faith for the forgiveness of their sins.

*Look up Luke 12 vv.4-5 to see how urgent this is:*

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*What does God through the apostle Paul command people to do in Acts 17 v.30?*

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When we have repented of our sin and have believed on Jesus Christ and His saving work on the cross, then we have a living relationship with God and have become true worshippers and servants of God.

## A worshipper wants to be ruled by God

Some people want to do things entirely their own way. They do not wish anyone to have any authority over them. This is not so for the Christian and the true worshipper of God.

The lesson of Study Three was that God is sovereign. Jesus Christ, as our Saviour, is also to be our Lord. The truth is we cannot receive Jesus Christ as our Saviour until we recognise Him as Lord.

In practical terms this means that when we do recognise Him as Lord and Saviour we shall, with the Holy Spirit's help, become more and more like Him. For example, we will want to have more love and more holiness. For these are two qualities that especially characterise God – just as Studies Five and Six showed us.

*Look up and write down Hebrews 12 v.14:*

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*Read through Matthew 5 vv.3-10, the 'beatitudes' in the Sermon on the Mount. Write down verse 8:*

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*Next read through 1 Corinthians 13 vv.1-7 to see what Paul says about the importance of love in the life of a believer. Write down verse 4:*

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We will want all that we do, and all that we have, to be under the government and rule of God. We must do it everything in our lives according to the will of God, whether it is how we conduct ourselves in our families, or with our friends and neighbours, or in our places of work. Even though we may fail as we seek to obey the Lord and become like Him, it is still the true desire of every worshipper to change and have a transformed life, to live as citizens of God's kingdom, under His government.



**A worshipper is a praying person**

The person who puts their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ recognises that prayer is important. For the desire to pray is close to the heart of every worshipper of God. Prayer is the way they come to know God better after they have been converted. Read Matthew 6 vv.9-13, the Lord’s Prayer, to see how the Lord Jesus Christ taught His disciples to pray.

*Paul thought prayer was important. Write down the vital instructions Paul gives in 1 Thessalonians 5 v.17:*  
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*What does Paul have to say about prayer in Colossians 4 v.2?*  
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A worshipper is a person who is ready and willing to pray. Prayer is in part a confession that we believe God to be sovereign and powerful. It is in prayer that we submit to God’s will and respond to His love.

**A worshipper is a lover of God’s Word**

**The Bible is the place where God has revealed Himself to us and shown us what He is like and who He is.** So then a worshipper will be a person who loves the Word of God. Psalm 119 describes a healthy attitude of love and respect towards the Word of God.

Look up Psalm 119 v.16 and write the verse in the space:

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*Another example is Psalm 119 v.24. Write that one down as well:*  
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With the help of the Holy Spirit, we learn how the Scriptures teach us more about God’s will. The Scriptures bring us into closer touch with



God's thinking on what we should believe and how we should live.  
We then show that we know God by the lives we lead.

*See what the psalmist says in Psalm 119 v.11:*

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## A worshipper of God loves the people of God

**To know who God is means that we also love His people.**

The apostle John takes this up in his first letter.

*Look up and note down 1 John 4 v.20:*

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Thus one of the ways that we can see and everyone else can see we know and love God is that we have love for His people. It is God's will that knowing Him should not just have a personal dimension but that we should grow in our knowledge of Him with other believers. We do this by joining together with other believers. We benefit by being together, praying together, working together, sharing together and learning together.

In one sense all believers belong to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ because the true church is made up of every single believer who is alive at any given time (the universal church). But God intends that people specifically express their worship together by being part of the local church. So part of the answer to the question 'Who is God?' is that He is the one who has called people together to be part of the church. Joining the local church is the practical expression and recognition of our being part of the universal church.

*Look up 1 Corinthians 12 vv.12-18 and see the lesson it has there about the importance of being together in the church, the body of Christ. Write down verse 13:*

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Part of the life of being in the church is that believers are involved in telling others who God is and calling on them to become followers of Jesus Christ.

*Look up Matthew 28 vv.19-20 and fill in the space:*



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When we understand who God is, then we obey Him and follow His instruction as to how to live as His people, whether in our individual life of holiness, or together as His people in the church.

It is a tragedy, and also very wrong, when people say they know who God is but then show that they do not take Him seriously because they live such unholy lives or display such little love in their hearts. People will recognise that we know God because of what we believe about Him and how we live as a result.

Really knowing who God is will make us worshippers of God.

*Finally write down how the apostle John turned his knowledge of God to worship in Revelation chapter 1 beginning with the last part of verse 16 and going into verse 17:*



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## Some questions to ask

Do I simply *know about* God or do I really *know* God?

What evidence is there in my life that I have come to know God?

## Something to read and consider

### Read the following passages in the Bible:

Ephesians 4 v.17–5 v.7

1 Corinthians 12 vv.12-31

### Addendum

**If you enjoyed doing this course** and found it useful, it may be may that our study series *Finding out about Christ* may also be of interest. Ask your study class leader to tell you more about it.

If you have already completed this course also, and you consider that you have a real interest in Christian truth – and perhaps have become a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ – then the course *Starting Out as a Christian* may be appropriate for you. Again, please ask your study class leader for more information.

Alternatively, if this isn't appropriate, please directly contact "Workbooks", 1 Ivy Close, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4UD, United Kingdom. Ask for a copy of whichever course you would like to receive, and it will normally be quickly despatched to you, together with an invoice requesting £3.50 (including postage). It might be a good idea to tell your church leader you are doing so, and ask for their support in doing the course to give you the greatest benefit.

We hope that you have appreciated studying our course.

*The Workbooks Team*