

THE REAL GOD
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SESSION #1
“SEEKING GOD” (22 minute video)

Session notes:

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God.

- A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

- God is not like us. (Isaiah 40:25-28)

- Left to ourselves we tend to reduce God to manageable terms. (Romans 1:21-23)

The idols we make are mental images and we worship success, fame, money, and power.

- God can only be known as He reveals Himself to us

Through nature

Through His Word

Through His Son

Question: What do you need to do to see God as He really is? Answer: Seek Him!

How to seek God:

Proverbs 2:1-5:

“my son, if you will receive My words and treasure My commandments within you,”

1. INITIATIVE

“Make your ear attentive to wisdom, incline your heart to understanding;”

2. TEACHABLE ATTITUDE

“For if you cry for discernment, lift your voice for understanding;”

3. PASSIONATE PRAYER

“If you seek her as silver and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will discern the fear of the Lord and discover the knowledge of God”

4. PRIORITY, INTENTIONALITY

QUESTION #1 - Try to remember the kinds of things that you thought about God when you first became a believer.

If, at that time, someone were to have asked you “What is God like? What does He look like? How does He treat His people?”

What are some words or phrases that you would have used to describe Him?

QUESTION #2 – Read Psalm 19:1-2:

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. 2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

Can you remember when you saw something in nature and it reminded you of God and His presence and power?

QUESTION #3 – Read John 1:1-4:

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Can you remember a time recently when you read a passage of scripture from the Bible and God taught you something NEW about Himself?

QUESTION #4 – Chip said that God wants to reveal Himself to you, but this means you will need to seek Him. He said that seeking Him should be the MOST IMPORTANT thing for you.

What are some common things that you struggle with keeping as a lower priority than God in regard to how much time and attention that you are giving to them (in other words, you are giving them TOO MUCH time and attention)?

QUESTION #5 – In J.I Packer’s book, “Knowing God,” He identifies four areas that show how deeply a person knows God for who He really is.

Rate yourself from 1-5 in each of these areas, and then talk about how or why you rated yourself the way you did with others.

_____ **Amount of ENERGY for God.**

Those who really know God take action and demonstrate initiative both in public and private as a result of knowing Him.

_____ **Greatness of THOUGHTS about God**

Those who really know God fill their minds often with awe-inspiring reminders of God’s grace.

_____ **Degree of BOLDNESS for God**

Those who really know God don’t hesitate to obey by faith even when it might cost them.

_____ **Level of CONTENTMENT in God**

Those who really know God experience peace even in the midst of trying circumstances.

QUESTION #6 - Can you explain any reasons why having a distorted view of God can negatively affect your life?

QUESTION #7 – Read John 1:14-18:

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ”) 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

Explain how God reveals Himself to us through Jesus.

QUESTION #8 – Read Proverbs 2:1-5 again

1 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

Which word or phrase in this scripture do you think you are not taking as seriously as you should be right now?