



DATE: April 21st - 22nd, 2024 **SERIES: Comeback Stories** TITLE: How Can We Know God? SPEAKER: Pastor Joseph Santora

Philippians 3:10-11 NLT ... I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

Acts 9:1-5 NLT ... Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. 2 He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains. 3 As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" 5 "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!

Galatians 1:17-18 NLT ... 17 Nor did I go up to Jerusalem to consult with those who were apostles before I was. Instead, I went away into Arabia, and later I returned to the city of Damascus. 18 Then three years later I went to Jerusalem to get to know Peter, and I stayed with him for fifteen days

How Can We Know God?



1: Understand Eternity.

- Genesis 3:8-9 NLT ... When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees. 9 Then the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"
- John 3:16 NLT ... For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal
- John 17:3 NLT ... And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.
- Ecclesiastes 3:11 NLT ... Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.
- Revelation 21:3 NLT ... I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them Notes:

2: Get Hungry.

Matthew 5:6 NLT ... God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.

- Matthew 22:37 NLT ... Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind
- **Psalm 42:1** NLT ... As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God.

Notes:

3: Go to the Secret Place.

- Matthew 6:5-8 NLT ... 5 "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. 6 But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. 7 "When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. 8 Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before vou ask him!
- Luke 5:14-16 NLT ... 14 Then Jesus instructed him not to tell anyone what had happened. He said, "Go to the priest and let him examine you. Take along the offering required in the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy. This will be a public testimony that you have been cleansed." 15 But despite Jesus' instructions, the report of his power spread even faster, and vast crowds came to hear him preach and to be healed of their diseases. 16 But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.
- John 4:7-14 NLT ... 7 Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." 8 He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. 9 The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans.[a] She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?" 10 Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water." 11 "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? 12 And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?" 13 Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. 14 But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life."
- Psalm 1:3 NLT ... They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.
- James 4:8 NLT ... 8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.
- Philippians 3:10-11 NLT ... 10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!
- 1 Corinthians 13:12 NIV ... For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even
- Matthew 14:22-23 NLT ... 22 Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. 23 After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone.
- Romans 8:14 NLT ... For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
- Matthew 4:1 NLT ... Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil.
- Romans 12:2 NLT ... Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.