

INTRODUCTION TO EXPERIENCING GOD

What Does It Mean To Experience God?

1. The Bible is God-centered.
2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
2. God has assigned the Holy Spirit to be our teacher.
John 14:26 "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."
3. To know God, you have to experience Him.
You must first be saved. A real relationship...not just knowledge.
4. God's goal is to conform you to the image of His Son.
Romans 8:29 "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son."
5. God is always at work around you.
John 5:17 "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working."
6. You need to see where He is at work and join Him there.
We need to join in on God's plan not try to get Him to join in on ours.
7. The servant does not have the agenda, the Master does.
Jeremiah 18:1-6 "This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message. So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of the LORD came to me. He said, Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does? declares the LORD. Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel."



John 5:17, 19-20 "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working. I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these."

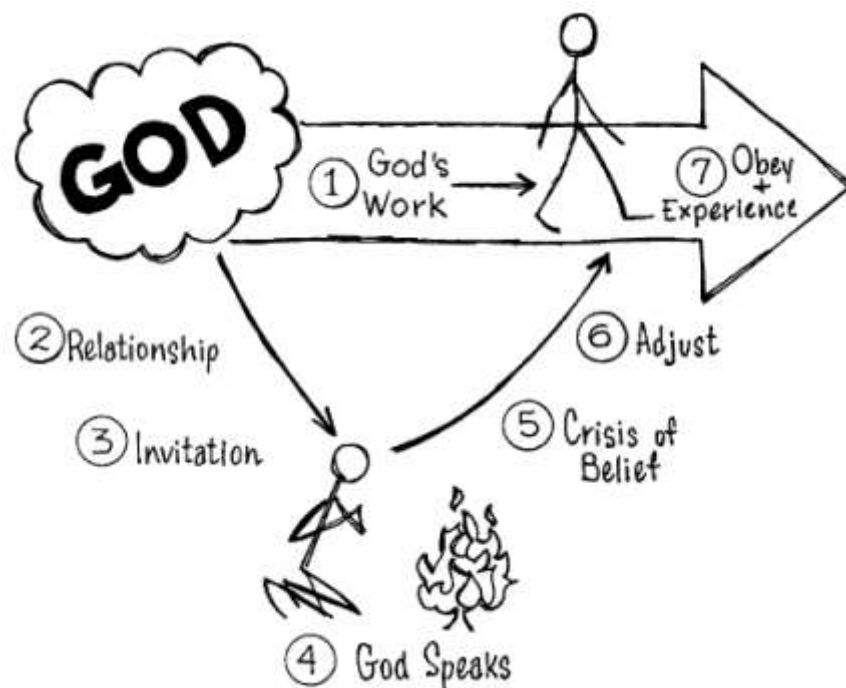
1. Who is always at work? God the Father
2. How much can the Son do by Himself? Nothing
3. What does the Son do? What the Father does
4. Why does the Father show the Son what He is doing? The Father loves the Son

This is one of the clearest statements of how Jesus knew what to do. Here is an outline of Jesus' approach to knowing and doing God's will...

- The Father has been working right up until now.
- Now the Father has Me working.
- I do nothing on My own initiative.
- I watch to see what the Father is doing.
- I do what I see the Father doing.
- The Father loves Me.
- He shows Me everything He is doing.

EXPERIENCING GOD

SEVEN REALITIES



1. God is always at work around you.
2. God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.
3. God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.
4. God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.
5. God's invitation for you to work with Him always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.
6. You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what He is doing.
7. You come to know God by experience as you obey Him, and He accomplishes His work through you.