

How
do you
know God?



DAY 5

Knowing God is the most important thing, but how do you do that? We're going to dig deeper into that this month, but today, you can get a head start by picking one way to get to know God better.

Look at the list below. Circle the ones that you don't regularly do. Then choose a fun way to narrow it down even more. You can write them down on scraps of paper, fold them up, and then draw one from a bowl or, just pick the one you want to try to focus on more!

Read the Bible

Ask someone wise for help with questions about God

Talk to God

Read a devotional

Hang out with others who trust God

Whichever one you pick, ask God to use that activity to help you get to know Him better.

KNOWLEDGE

LEARNING SOMETHING NEW SO YOU
CAN BE BETTER AT WHATEVER YOU DO

DAY 1

Go to [Studio252.tv](https://studio252.tv) and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.
(Click on *Fun2Watch!* then *The So & So Show.*)

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2

READ LUKE 2:46-52

Jesus is God's own Son, but even He had more to learn about Who God is! In Luke 2, we read how Jesus intentionally increased His own knowledge of God, and worked to grow wiser and stronger.

As you read Luke 2:46-52, pay attention to the progression of Jesus' pursuit of knowledge of His Father. Then fill in the missing letters below to spell out words that are contained in verses 46-47 and 52.

When Jesus' parents found Him in the courtyard, He was L _ _ _
EN _ _ _ to the teachers and _ SK _ _ _ them questions. They were
amazed by how much Jesus _ _ _ D _ R _ T _ _ O _ and the AN _ W _ _ _
He gave them. And after He returned home, He continued to become
_ _ _ S _ _ _ and ST _ _ _ N _ _ _ R.

If we want to become wiser and stronger like Jesus, we need to do the things He did! That means asking questions from others who are wiser than us and have been studying God's words for longer than we have. It means listening to their answers. And it also means sharing what we've learned. If we put those steps into action, we too can grow wiser and stronger and get to know God better!

DAY 3

Have you ever tried to get to know someone better? Maybe you've asked your mom if the kid in your class could come over to play, or you've exchanged contact info with a new friend to text or chat with each other. No matter how you choose to get to know someone better, at the end of the day it takes one important ingredient: communication.

Getting to know God better takes communication too, but there's a big difference: you can talk to God ANYTIME. No hangout or phone required! You can share what's going on in your life, ask God for help, and even sit in silence and just listen to what He might have to say to you.

Knowing God is the most important thing, so for the next few days, commit to putting the most important thing FIRST in your day, and then keep talking to God throughout the day. Try using this schedule to help you remember.

First thing: Thank God for the gift of a new day, and ask Him for help with anything challenging you have coming up that day. Take a minute to hear from Him by reading a couple of verses from your Bible.

At lunch: Ask God to show you someone you can be a friend to.

After school: Ask God for help with any homework you have, or after-school activities.

At dinner: Thank God for the ways you saw Him at work today.

At bedtime: Ask God to help you care about the things He cares about.

DAY 4

Who is someone you know who really knows God well? Maybe it's your small group leader, a family member, or your best friend. Be sure and choose someone you can talk to sometime today or tomorrow and write their name here:

_____. Reach out to that person and ask them if you can interview them for a couple of minutes. Ask them the following questions.

1) How long have you been actively trying to know God?

- 2) What is the best way you have found to get to know God?
- 3) What sometimes gets in the way of you getting to know God better?
- 4) What book of the Bible would you recommend I read to get to know God better?
- 5) What is the coolest thing you've learned about God lately?

Be sure and thank your interviewee for their time, and ask them to pray for you as you get to know God better.

How can
knowing who
Jesus is
change your
life?



DAY 5

When we read about Jesus' life in the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, we learn a lot about Jesus' character. But life isn't always easy, and sometimes we might forget what we know about Jesus.

Read the common scenarios below and then draw a line to connect them to an attribute of Jesus that might help you in that situation. (Tip: Some of these might have more than one answer . . .)

You're scared to try a new activity

Your friend gets really sick

You get the "mean teacher"

You fall down in front of the class

You get a bad grade on your test

You get in trouble at home

You're fighting with your brother or sister

Peacemaker

All-powerful

Compassionate

Healer

Merciful

Always present

Forgiving

Circle one of the scenarios above that you sometimes face. How does knowing the matching attribute of Jesus change how you face that situation? _____

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DAY 2

READ JOHN 1:29-39

As you read John 1:29-39, circle every time you read God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or a word referring to them.

How many times does John talk about God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in these few verses? _____

It's clear that John's life was changed by meeting Jesus—it's all He could talk about!

John was already doing his best to serve God, but then he met Jesus and things got really serious. John not only got to know God better through Jesus, but he also encouraged others to get to know God better by following Jesus!

THE SAME IS TRUE FOR YOU TODAY. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW GOD, START WITH JESUS.

DAY 3

Did you know that people used to give a sacrifice to get right before God? It was a complicated process involving animals, priests, oil, and a lot of strict rules.

BUT NOW, WHEN WE PRAY, WE CAN TALK DIRECTLY TO GOD. WHY? BECAUSE OF JESUS!

When Jesus came, He bridged the gap between God and us, and now we can talk to God anytime we want. If we mess up, we can ask God for forgiveness without any high priest or animal sacrifice. If we need God's help, we can ask Him for it. If we just want to tell God that we love Him and thank Him for His blessings, we don't have to wait for a formal ceremony to tell Him. Jesus made it possible for us to really know God and have a relationship with Him.

Take a minute to tell God something that no one else knows. Maybe it's something you need to ask forgiveness for, or it's something you're scared or worried about that you haven't shared with anyone else.

Then thank God for sending Jesus so you could go directly to Him, and tell Him that you want to know Him better.

DAY 4

RE-READ JOHN 1:35-42.

Andrew was nearby, along with another soon-to-be disciple of Jesus, when John the Baptist pointed out Jesus and called Him the Lamb of God.

Notice the first thing Andrew did when He realized who Jesus was: he went to find his brother to tell him the good news—that he had found the Messiah, the Savior of the world!

When you get to know Jesus, and you understand that He is the way to God, it's kind of hard to keep that to yourself!

Who do you know that needs to know Who Jesus is, and that He came so we can have a relationship with God? _____

Andrew shared the good news in a pretty simple way: he just went and found his brother and told him that he had met Jesus. How can you share the good news with your friend or family member?

Now, go and put your plan into action.

Remember to keep it simple, and don't be scared to share the great news that Jesus came to save all of us.

How do
you know
what's wise?



DAY 5

If you have a dry erase marker, head to your bathroom mirror and write the numbers 1-4. (If you don't, grab a sheet of paper and follow the same directions, then just hang it somewhere you can see it.)

THEN WRITE THESE WORDS.

1. READ
2. PRAY
3. TALK
4. THINK

Any time you have a tough decision to make, think through it using these four steps. First, think back on Bible verses you have READ, or use a Bible app to look up verses that might apply to the decision you're facing. Next, PRAY and ask God for wisdom. If you're still not sure what to do, TALK to a trusted friend who follows God. Lastly, if you're still struggling to make a wise choice and you haven't found anything in the Bible that you feel like applies, THINK about what you know about Jesus and what He might have done in the same situation.

Sometimes the wise choice is fairly obvious, but sometimes it's not. Thankfully, God has given us lots of tools to help us make wise choices!

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DAY 2

READ LUKE 4:1-13

Match these verses with the ones quoted in Luke 4:1-13.

DEUTERONOMY 6:13

PSALM 91:11-12

DEUTERONOMY 6:16

DEUTERONOMY 8:3

LUKE 4:12

LUKE 4:4

LUKE 4:11

LUKE 4:8

Now go back and read the Deuteronomy and Psalm passages. Do they in fact match up?

They do! Jesus had spent His whole life studying God's words, so when the time came, He knew how to make the wise choice.

Discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice, too.

DAY 4

We can discover what's in the Bible by reading it, which is always a good idea. But admittedly, it's a pretty big collection of books, and sometimes it can feel overwhelming when you try to find verses that you know will help you make wise choices. Today, you're going to discover what God says by asking others which of His words they have found most helpful!

Grab a notebook you always have with you at school, or even just a sheet of paper that you can keep in your pocket or backpack. Then go around and interview several people you know who follow God and read their Bibles.

Ask them what their favorite verse is, especially one that has helped them make wise choices (be sure and ask them how the verse has helped them).

Then write out that verse on your paper. Continue until you have a few, then circle one or two that seem especially helpful to you as you think about the days ahead. Store the paper

DAY 3

Go back and read Luke 4:9-11. Verse 11 is a quote of Scripture, but here's where it gets tricky. In this case, it wasn't Jesus quoting God's Word, it was actually the enemy. God's Word is meant to encourage, to make us more like God, and to give us wisdom. It's not meant to be a weapon, which is how the devil was using it against Jesus.

But Jesus knew what the enemy was up to. And He had just spent 40 days praying and hanging out with God in the wilderness. He was completely tracking with His Father, so He knew that the devil was using His Father's words against Him.

There may be times that we feel tempted to make bad decisions by the world, by situations where we're just worn down, or even by people who act like they have our best interest in heart. But we can know the wise choice to make when we are connecting with God on a regular basis through His Word and in prayer.

Go back and read Psalm 91:11-12 as a prayer, remembering that God intended these words as a beautiful, encouraging truth:

"Dear God, thank You for the promise you give us through Psalm 91:11-12, that 'The Lord will command his angels to take good care of you. They will lift you up in their hands. Then you won't trip over a stone.' (NirV) This week, help me to make time to connect with You and Your Word, and then help me to use Your Words and Your power to make wise choices. In Jesus' Name, I pray, amen."

or notebook somewhere you can easily access. Bonus points if you can memorize one of the verses that is new to you!

When you
have questions
about God,
who can you
ask?



DAY 5

Match these occupations with their field. Make your best guess, but if you get stuck, ask Siri, Alexa, or your favorite virtual assistant.

Fromager	Women's hats
Chandler	Candles
Lapidary	Leather
Slater	Metal
Tinker	Wigs
Milliner	Cheese
Peruker	Roofs
Tanner	Jewelry

How did you do on that activity? It was pretty tricky, wasn't it? But if you were looking for answers on the best cheese to pair with your favorite cracker, it would be nice to know a fromager. But what if you have questions about God? Who should you ask then? Well, for starters, try, God! Pray about it, read the Bible, look for your answers from the One who has them all. But sometimes you may feel like you're not getting the answer you're looking for. The great news is that God has put people in your life who can also help you understand Him more. Write down the name of one or two people who you know you can ask questions about God. _____

Before the week is over, reach out to that person or people and tell them you're thankful they're in your life and that you can trust them to help you know God better. Tell them to brace themselves for all the questions that may come their way, and then start asking! You're well on your way to discovering something new about God, and when you put what you learn into practice, your life will be better for it!

Fromager cheese • Chandler candles • Lapidary jewelry • Slater roofs • Tanner leather • Milliner women's hats • Peruker wigs • Tinker metal

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DAY 2

READ MATTHEW 11:1-6.

As you read Matthew 11:1-6, underline the questions John and his disciples had for Jesus.

THEN CIRCLE JESUS' ANSWERS.

What do you notice? Does anything seem a little strange about Jesus' answer? _____

He doesn't appear to **exactly** answer the question, does He? Or, does He?

Jesus does answer the question, but just not in the most obvious, straightforward way. If you look back over Jesus' ministry on earth, it was often that way when people asked Him questions. He would often answer their questions with a story, or by asking them a question back. We're not sure why, but maybe it was to encourage people to keep asking questions, not wanting them to feel like understanding God was a simple yes and no scenario, but rather something that takes time and a deep desire for connecting with God.

What is a question you have about God? _____

DAY 3

Look back at the question you wrote about God yesterday.

Have you ever asked God that question directly? If you have, awesome! Even if you still don't feel you have the answer, just keep asking Him. Jesus told a story that Luke recounted in Luke 11:5-13 (go check it out!) about persistence in prayer. Sometimes we just have to keep asking God, but He's promised He will give wisdom to us when we ask for it.

If you've never asked God about the question you have about Him, today's a great day to start:

"Dear God, Thank You for being such a big, great God that getting to know You takes time! Sometimes I have questions about what You are doing or even why You seem to be not doing something. One question I've had for a while about You is: _____"

_____ . I'd love to understand this about You. Please help me understand, and give me patience in the meantime while I wait to learn more and more about You.

DAY 4

Grab a sheet of paper and a marker and draw a circle on it.

Inside the circle, write "Ask Me Why?" Then, cut out the circle and pin the button on your shirt. As you go throughout the day, as people as you 'why,' you'll probably have different answers, based on the situation you're in at the time. But be sure and explain them that you're learning to ask questions about God in order to know Him better, so you're starting with the question, "Why?". You'll probably have some interesting conversations throughout the day, so be sure and share the

results of your "Why" experience with a parent at the end of the day. Share what you learned about others, about the world, and about God as a result.