

Knowing Jesus – February 19, 2026

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“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” – John 14:5-7

Have you ever been in a relationship where someone always seems just out of reach—close, but never quite letting you in?

You spend time together, you talk often, but there's a distance you can't seem to cross. You may find yourself wondering what they're really thinking, guessing how they feel, or making assumptions because they never quite open. Those assumptions often lead to frustration, confusion, or hurt.

Maybe that relationship is with your spouse, your children, parent or a significant other; a close friend you've known for years. You share life together, but the conversations never seem to move beyond the surface. And if we're honest, sometimes that person is us.

Maybe you're the one who struggles to let others in. The fear of judgment or rejection keeps you guarded or you find yourself assuming what others think about you—even when it isn't true—and those thoughts quietly shape your insecurities. All of us have experienced relationships like this at some point in our lives. At times, we've known someone who felt distant. At other times, we've been the distant one ourselves. The truth of the matter is, in a healthy relationship you cannot force anyone to share the truth about what is one's mind and heart. You can only invite someone to do so, or we take the first step to open up.

Intimate relationships matter deeply. They are not just important for our emotional or mental health—they are part of how we were created. God designed us for relationship. We were never meant to live isolated, disconnected lives stricken with shame and fear.

That's why Jesus' words in John 14 are so striking. He doesn't merely invite us to “believe” certain things about Him; He invites us to ***know*** Him. To walk closely with Him. To move beyond surface-level faith into real, living relationship. Jesus tells His disciples that *knowing* Him is the way to knowing the Father—not at a distance, but personally.

And yet, even after following Jesus for over three years and witnessing His miracles, hearing His teaching, and seeing His face, many still rejected Him. Some doubted. Some turned away. Some even persecuted Him.

Which gently confronts us with an important question:
Do we truly know Jesus—or are we keeping Him at arm's length?

God knows you better than we will ever know ourselves. Even then he invites us closer. You don't have to perform or pretend. We can be at ease because he listens, he knows, even when our words don't seem to get it right. But before all of that, Jesus invites us to know Him, and through Him, to know the Father. The invitation is not to stay guarded, but to step into relationship—honest, vulnerable, and real.

Will you take a moment today to be with the Lord? Even if in silence, even if in a single truthful sentence or word. He invites you to abide in Him, know him, and be with Him.

Prayer:

You have known me before you formed me in my mother's womb. Before I was born you have already set me apart (Jer. 1). Lord, I seek you and seek your face. I desire to know you more. I want to know you in my deepest despair and brokenness, and in my utmost and greatest joy; in what brings you joy and glory that I may be free to live as you have called me to live. In Christ I pray, Amen.