

Learning to Trust God

Oct. 23, 2022 | Judges 6:1-40 | Mercy in the Night | Pastor Mike Foster

The more we know God, the more we trust God
AND

The more we trust God, the more we know God

- Reasons we don't know (or forget) God (vv. 1-18)
 - o We have not been taught
 - o We have heard of God but have not experienced Him for ourselves
 - o We are seeing God through the lens of our circumstances
 - o We are seeing God through the lens of our insecurities
- The key to knowing God is trusting God (vv. 19-40)
 - o Start where you are
 - o Take little steps of faith
 - o Don't stop at fear
 - o Keep track of what God does
- What we learn about God from Gideon
 - o God is sovereign and great
 - o God is merciful and good
 - o God is faithful and true

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. In your own words, summarize Gideon's story that we saw in chapter 6. What other Bible characters might be able to relate to his story? How do you relate with his story?
3. Have you ever felt like Gideon, fearful and/or disheartened by oppressive circumstances, a shell of yourself? Describe what that was like. In what ways was God pursuing you in that condition?
4. Review the four given reasons why we don't know (or forget) God. Which one of these reasons most resonated with you?
5. Share about a time when you allowed your circumstances to define God rather than your God to define your circumstances. (Consider 2 Corinthians 4:7-11)
6. How would you pray for and/or encourage someone asking the question "If God... why this...?"
7. How did you first begin to experience God for yourself (not just knowing about him from others)?
8. Spend some time reading Ephesians 1:3-14 and 1 Peter 2:9-10. What do you observe in these passages about your identity in Christ?
9. Share about a time when you took a little step of faith that led to a greater understanding of God.
10. Read Psalm 36:5-9. What attributes of God do you see in these verses? What attribute of God most encourages your heart today and why?

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Read Psalm 36:5-9, Isaiah 6:1-13, Jeremiah 1:4-8, 2:13-19, 1 Cor. 1:26-31, 1 Pet. 2:9-10

Read "God Uses Flawed People"

– <https://cmda.org/god-uses-flawed-people/>

Read about your identity in Christ

– www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/spiritual-growth/core-christian-beliefs/identity-in-christ.html

Read *The Attributes of God* by A.W. Tozer or *God Himself* by Tony Evans

Read "Mighty Warrior"

– <https://odb.org/US/2021/11/26/mighty-warrior>

Listen to "Jesus my Treasure"

– www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjRKHNOX78s

Listen to "You Say"

– www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8WK9HmF53wy