

WE NEED TO KNOW THE BASICS

"Go ye therefore, and teach...them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" Matt. 28:19

"Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. " John 3:7

"The principles of the doctrine of Christ...the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. Heb. 6:1&2

We have to be born again! One of the men that was crucified with Jesus, after mocking Jesus, had a change of heart because He was "born again". He turned to Jesus for salvation and Jesus said, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise". He turned away from a life of "dead works" and believed God for salvation, through Jesus, as a result of being "born again". This rebirth of our spirit is the first "baptism" or immersion. we are brought back into the family of God our Father. the second baptism is water baptism. We identify with Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. We commit to killing our old nature and living a new life immersed in Jesus. The third immersion is the baptism in the Holy Spirit. We receive power from the Holy Ghost that can be transferred through the laying on of hands. All of mankind will be resurrected and face an everlasting judgment from God. If we refuse rebirth, we choose eternal separation from God. For more information download the audio file

BAPTISM

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SOME THINGS EVERYBODY NEEDS TO KNOW WHY DID GOD CREATE US??

God created us to be the object of His love.

"God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

"Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." Romans 5:8

"When the Lord first began speaking to Israel through Hosea, he said to him, "Go and marry a prostitute," Hosea 1:2

God created us so that He could demonstrate the greatness of His love. Until God created us, He only had Himself and angels to love. The angels that rebelled were fully aware of their decision to usurp God's authority and are therefore unforgivable. Jesus gave us the reason God can forgive us from the cross when He said, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Just as Hosea never stopped loving his prostitute wife, God shows His unbelievable love for us by sending Jesus to die for our sins even when we make Him a curse word, live a life in rebellion against Him, and refuse to return the love that He created us to receive. God gives us free will and allows us to choose evil, to demonstrate His Unbelievable love.

WE NEED TO "KNOW" OUR GOD

GOD WANTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH US!!!

And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you. Matt. 7:23

The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. Dan .11:32

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4:7&8

"No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Matt. 11:27

Often, when I tell people where I live, they ask me if I know someone from that area. Sometimes I recognize the name. I may know some things about the person. I might even have met the person and had some dealings with him but I don't really know them. It takes time to get to "know" someone. We have to spend time to build a relationship. I've been married over 50 years and my wife knows me pretty well.

It is even harder with God. Jesus told us that only He really knows our Father. Reading about Him only lets us know about Him. No matter how often or carefully we study the things written about Him, we will always only know about him. This isn't a bad thing. It's kind of like being set-up for a blind date. It's a good thing to know what the person looks like, find out if you have any common interests, and especially things about their character. Unless we decide to spend time with them we will never know them.

WE NEED TO KNOW HOW TO BUILD OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life." John 5:38&39 NLT

Jesus is speaking to the theologians of his day. Jesus, several times, admonished the disciples to pray. He often set Himself apart to pray. It is apparent that Jesus and His disciples had an in-depth knowledge of the Scriptures. They repeatedly referred to the many prophecies Jesus fulfilled, but the Scriptures point us to the only one Who really "knows the father". Jesus told us that we should both hear and know His voice. The big question is "How do we get to that place in our relationship with Him?".

THE ANSWER IS PRAYER

"He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:25

Prayer is when Jesus shares His deepest passions with His Father and He invites us to join into that prayer time every day. In the "sermon on the mount" Jesus invites us to pray with Him and reveals a prayer He prays every day. When He says "Our Father" He invites us all to join in and spend some quality time with Him and our Father. Luke tells us, in chapter 11 of his gospel, that sometime later Jesus made this very clear when He said "When you pray say, Our Father ..." As we pray along side of Jesus, His voice will become more familiar and His passion will become our passion. I recommend praying the prayer He told us to pray. He has His reasons.