

A STUDY IN KNOWING GOD

The following Scriptures are selected to help create a number of discoveries relating to the idea of ***Finding God in the Words***. As you read them, make notes recording your thoughts. Write down any relationships you see between the thoughts expressed in the different verses—look for common words and ideas. What do these things tell us about the basic nature of Bible study—the intent of the words? In these verses, what can we see about the problems Jesus had getting people to see God in the words of the Bible? Do you see any similar problems today? What are some of the differences between just knowing Scripture and both knowing Scripture and God? How do these passages relate to the popularity of traditions over revelation? How well is the church doing with teaching and developing the truths you have seen in these verses? What would you suggest we could do in order to better address these truths? Be open to spiritual experience—allow thoughts to float around for a while before landing on conclusions. Let your conclusions be refining, even reinvention. Let truth go where it will, not where we might will it to go.

The Verses

1. John 7:28 (6:42; 7:41-42); **8:19, 55; 14:7-9; 15:21; 16:3; 17:3, 25-26.**
2. **Matthew 11:27-30**; John 1:1, 14, **18**; 7:29; 10:15; **14:8-9**; 17:25.
3. **II Corinthians 4:6**; Philippians 3:8; I Corinthians 2:16; Colossians 1:19; 2:2,9; II Peter 1:1-3; 1:8; 2:20; 3:18.
4. **Philippians 2:5**; I John 5:20; **John 5:39-44.**
5. **Romans 8:9, 29; II Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 2:20**; 4:19; Ephesians 3:16-18; 4:11-16; Colossians 1:24-29; I Peter 3:15.
6. John 14:8, 23-24, 26; 15:26; 16:13-14; Ephesians 1:23; 4:10; Colossians 3:17; John 1:16; Colossians 2:10; 3:11; **Matthew 5:48; Leviticus 19:2.**

Give your study time. Read, meditate, pray—mull over these truths for a while and see what happens. Expect to find new ideas and to refine your current thinking—Christianity is about growth. Let the words be unencumbered by anything that would hinder their intended meaning. Wherever they go, *when seen in their full truth*, is where God wants them to go—it is where God is. Let your diligence in study, prayer, and meditation allow you to grow in your knowledge of God. Enjoy!

Edwin