

Values Matter Discovery Starters

We Want to Know God

1. KNOW GOD

YWAM is committed to know God, His nature, His character and His ways as revealed in the Bible, the inspired and authoritative Word of God. We seek to reflect who He is in every aspect of our lives and ministry. The automatic overflow of knowing and enjoying fellowship with God is a desire to share Him with others.

[2Ki 19:19](#); [Job 42:5](#); [Psa 46:10](#); [Psa 103:7-13](#); [Jer 9:23-24](#);
[Hos 6:3](#); [Joh 17:3](#); [Eph 1:16-17](#); [Php 3:7-11](#); [1Jo 2:4-6](#)

Value #1 – Know God: Pursuing Relational Revelation

Biblical Foundation:

"I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes"
(Job 42:5).

Discovery Starter:

Walking through the bustling street market, I heard a local vendor address her young child, "I have to leave the stand for a few moments. Don't you dare move from this chair while I'm gone. If you do, God will see you and he will get you." I cringed. The mother's threatening tone evoked in my mind images of a story-book ogre who took delight in punishing wayward children. Imagine what these words must have produced in the spirit of that young, impressionable child? What mark did they leave on his heart? Was God really like that? Does he sneakily spy on fidgety kids, cackling with sinister delight when they mess up so he can "get" them?

So many things are said about God. Some of them are true. Many are not. We see this even in the book of Job. At the end of the story, God says that Job's three friends had not "spoken accurately" about God and his ways. He said this not only once, but twice (Job 42:7,8)! This is shocking, for the words of Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar occupy nearly one fifth of this dramatic book. Steer clear of their words – even those which seem fairly orthodox – for they do not meet with God's approval.

The point is this: second-hand “facts” about God should be shunned. We don’t want mere information about God. We want him. We want a deeply intimate, experiential encounter with the living God. For this reason, Job resisted his friends’ pat answers and their religious platitudes. Amidst his pain, he passionately pursued God with hard-hitting questions until he reached a relational revelation; until he could say to God, *“I have seen you with my own eyes.”* This kind of knowledge is truly transformational. This kind of knowledge is not accidental. It comes to those who – like Job – earnestly yearn for God. Job’s hunger for God was unquenchable, his pursuit of God was unstoppable. He declared his undying hope, *“I will see God! I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes”* (Job 19:26-27). May this be our undying goal as well.

Keep Going:

Read the following verses and consider how you can passionately pursue God:

- Deu 4:29
- 1Ch 28:9-10a
- Act 17:27
- Heb 11:6

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