

Do you not know that those who run in a race
all run, but one receives the prize?
Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

1 Corinthians 9:24

How to Experience God

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

There are different levels of faith.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There are different levels of faith.
And there are different levels of experience
(such as love – see John 21).

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There are different levels of faith.

And there are different levels of experience
(such as love – see John 21).

Just like there are different levels of knowledge
(or understanding).

How to Experience God

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To “know” (*eídō*) or to “know” (*ginōskō*)

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The other is much deeper.

It is an understanding that goes beyond the academic and is rooted in an intimate, undeniable experience (*ginōskō*).

(see Matthew 1:25)

How to Experience God

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The same truth applies to all of our Christian life.

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We can believe (justification)

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We can believe (justification)
and live (sanctification) by faith...

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“I have faith to believe God can.”

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...or we can believe and live by faith affirmed by our
experience in faith (or faith in action).

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“I know He can, for He has done so in my life!
I have personally tasted and seen that He is good.”

How to Experience God

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By faith Jacob (blessed sons of Joseph) ... (vs. 21)

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

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We have an experience with God when what we trust by faith actually comes to pass and we experience what we have believed to be true.

It is when we can say, like the men of Samaria who heard the testimony of the woman and came to believe in Jesus ...

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Then they said to the woman,
“Now we believe, not because of what you said,
for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that
this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

John 4:42

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When you experience Him in worship,
your entire life and relationship with Christ changes.

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When you experience Him in worship,
your entire life and relationship with Christ changes.

When a church experiences Him in worship,
revivals or great awakenings happen.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

When you experience Him in worship, your entire life and relationship with Christ changes.

When a church experiences Him in worship, revivals or great awakenings happen.

When you experience Him in His Word, you will not be able to get enough Bible study to satisfy your hungry soul. His Word will become your lifeline.

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When you experience Him in prayer, it means you have moved from a monologue to a two-way conversation with God Himself, and your prayer life will become the most important thing you do each day.

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When you experience Him in prayer, it means you have moved from a monologue to a two-way conversation with God Himself, and your prayer life will become the most important thing you do each day. Why?

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

When you experience Him in prayer, it means you have moved from a monologue to a two-way conversation with God Himself, and your prayer life will become the most important thing you do each day. Why? Because you are having a conversation with the Great I AM, El Shaddai (God Almighty), the Word (Logos), and Immanuel (God With Us).

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

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This is what we mean when we talk about experiencing God when you pray.

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

This is what we mean when we talk about experiencing God when you pray.

Consider the following...

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is Bible study.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is Bible study.

And there is feasting on His Living Word.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is Bible study.

And there is feasting on His Living Word.

There is singing praise songs.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is Bible study.

And there is feasting on His Living Word.

There is singing praise songs.

And there is praising and worshipping Him in song
and experiencing His pleasure in your offering to Him.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is asking for forgiveness.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is asking for forgiveness.

And there is experiencing a broken and contrite heart.

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is asking for forgiveness.

And there is experiencing a broken and contrite heart.

There is trusting Him and His Word.

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is asking for forgiveness.

And there is experiencing a broken and contrite heart.

There is trusting Him and His Word.

And there is living by faith in Him alone, not just for your salvation, but for your daily needs (bread).

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

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There is being a follower of Jesus.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is being a follower of Jesus.

And there is being called as one of His disciples.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is being a follower of Jesus.

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There is the Christian life.

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The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is being a follower of Jesus.

And there is being called as one of His disciples.

There is the Christian life.

And there is the higher Christian life, which is a life of surrender and trust in Him that impacts every area of who you are in Christ.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

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There is praying and offering thanks and petitions.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is praying and offering thanks and petitions.
And there is entering the throne room of God and
experiencing His manifest presence in prayer.

How to Experience God

The Importance of Experience and Faith

There is praying and offering thanks and petitions.
And there is entering the throne room of God and
experiencing His manifest presence in prayer.

This is what we mean by experiencing God when you
pray. And once you do, you will never see prayer
the same way again.

How to Experience God in Prayer

How to Experience God in Prayer

What do you have to do to enter into His presence when you pray and experience God Himself?

How to Experience God in Prayer

What do you have to do to enter into His presence when you pray and experience God Himself?

What does His Word say about how we are to approach Him?

How to Experience God in Prayer

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

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Time and Preparation

1. We Must Prepare Our Hearts to Meet With Him

How to Experience God in Prayer

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"Blessed are (who) the pure in heart,
(why) for they (the pure in heart) shall see God."

Matthew 5:8

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

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Forgive others as He has forgiven us

Matthew 6:14-15

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Confess our sins and seek His forgiveness – 1 John 1:9

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Surrender our lives to Him – Romans 12:1-2

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

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Time and Preparation

2. We Must Enter Into His Presence, His Way

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

2. We Must Enter Into His Presence, His Way

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
and into His courts with praise.

Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

Psalm 100:4

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Time and Preparation

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We will experience His peace – Philippians 4:6-7

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Time and Preparation

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We will experience His peace – Philippians 4:6-7

His joy – Psalm 16:11

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

2. We Must Enter Into His Presence, His Way

We will experience His peace – Philippians 4:6-7

His joy – Psalm 16:11

And His strength – Isaiah 40:31

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

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Time and Preparation

3. We Must Wait to Experience a Two-Way Conversation With God

How to Experience God in Prayer

Time and Preparation

3. We Must Wait to Experience a Two-Way Conversation With God

Remember, God can speak to us any way He wants, but He will speak. We cannot rush Him and must wait for the gift of His Word (*rhema*) to us.

How to Experience God in Prayer

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

1. Learn to Make Christ-Centered Petitions of God

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will (not our will), He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him (because we asked according to His will).

1 John 5:14-15

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Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

2. Learn to Come to Him in Child-Like Boldness

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

2. Learn to Come to Him in Child-Like Boldness
3. Learn to Stay Connected Through Prayer

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

2. Learn to Come to Him in Child-Like Boldness

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John 15:1-8

How to Experience God in Prayer

Some Final Thoughts (things to learn)

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3. Learn to Stay Connected Through Prayer

John 15:1-8

1 Thessalonians 5:14

How to Experience God in Prayer

How to Experience God in Prayer

What do we do next?

How to Experience God in Prayer

What do we do next?

When you pray, rest (abide) in these truths.

How to Experience God in Prayer

What do we do next?

When you pray, rest (abide) in these truths.

And we will unpack more next week.