

# HOPEcommunity.

HOPE Community Christian Church  
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## **Knowing God – Part 3**

**Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**A Very Special Welcome and Blessing to Mothers today. Thank you for what you do, and bless you for who you are!**

Is it possible to think that you know God, yet not really know Him? You may know your Bible and you may be able to quote many passages. You may be able to hear God's voice and to prophecy. You may have incredible spiritual anointing be able to perform signs and wonders. Your words may have changed people's lives... But do any of these things mean that you really know God?

### **2 Peter 3:8-18 NIV**

<sup>8</sup> But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. ***Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.***

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

<sup>11</sup> Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? ***You ought to live holy and godly lives <sup>12</sup>as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.*** That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. <sup>13</sup> But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup> So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. <sup>15</sup> Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. <sup>16</sup> He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, ***be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. <sup>18</sup>But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*** To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

### **James 1:26-27 NIV**

<sup>26</sup> Those who consider themselves religious and yet ***do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves***, and their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as ***pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.***

### **Matthew 25:34-40 NIV**

<sup>34</sup> "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> ***For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup>I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'***

<sup>37</sup> "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, ***whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'***

### **Understanding the Heart of God:**

1. **His desire for repentance and salvation** – 2 Peter 3:9
  - He delays his return for His church and the judgement of the earth to allow for more people to be saved.
  - Jesus Christ came to save that which was lost – Luke 19:10
2. **His desire for godly living** – 2 Peter 3:11 & James 1:27
  - The reason the earth must be judged and destroyed is to put a final end to the cancer of sin. Sin is corrupt and it seeps its way into all society. It brings death, destruction and alienation from God. God wants us to love what He loves and hate what He hates (that being sin).
3. **His desire for social justice and care for others** – James 1:27 & Matthew 25:35-36
  - God's heart for justice is all throughout the Bible. He hates abusive authority. He hates rebellion and dual vision (division). He teaches us to care for others and to defend those who can't defend themselves. Justice in the courts, proper government structure and order, leadership with a heart are all concepts that He wants us to champion.
  - When we serve others, we are really serving God.

### **The Need for Expository Bible Teaching: - 2 Peter 3:17-18**

There are many people who teach. There are many anointed ministry specialists that are well known in the internet world of today. What many people are not familiar with, is good Bible teachers who aren't teaching from a denominational or heavily entrenched theological agenda. Here is a list below of some very good Bible teachers to read from or listen to.

- Jack Hayford, Michael Youseff, Charles Stanley, John Bevere, Charles Swindoll, Beth Moore, R.T. Kendall, J. I. Packer, Gordon Fee, Haddon Robinson, Jill Briscoe, Rick Warren, Charles Price, Joseph Stowell, N.T. Wright., Henry Balckaby, Kay Arthur, Jim Cymbala, Joyce Meyer, etc.

Desiring to go into pastoral ministry or to take Bible courses?

- There are four main accredited evangelical Bible Colleges in Ontario (high school diploma/G.E.D. required):
  - Emmanuel Bible College (Kitchener), Heritage Bible College (Cambridge), Masters Bible College (Peterborough) & Tyndale University College (Toronto) (many of these schools offer online courses).
- There are a number of good seminaries in Ontario (for those who already have a Bachelor's degree):
  - Heritage Seminary (Cambridge), McMaster Seminary (Hamilton), Tyndale Seminary (Toronto), Wycliffe Seminary (Toronto)

### **Salvation Prayer (to ask God to forgive your sins and adopt you as His child):**

"Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for taking my place by dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Saviour and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sin and giving me eternal life. I ask that You lead, teach and fill me with the Holy Spirit. Change me into a person who represents you well, in Jesus name, amen."

## **Announcements: [www.hopecommunitysite.com](http://www.hopecommunitysite.com) 705-812-2833**

**Small Group Bible Studies:** Contact Craig Basaraba for current groups or to start a group

**Morning Prayer** Monday to Friday 9 to 10 am at the church

**Woman's Walking/Exercise Group** – Mondays 7:00 pm at the church

**Kid's Tuesday Afterschool Program** – 3:30 to 5:00 pm - gym games, snack, encouragement & friendship

**Mom's Hangout** – Wednesdays 10-11:30 am... A time for Moms and kid's to hang out and get to know each other.

**Upward Soccer (Ages SK to Grade 6) Practice** – Wednesdays 6-8 pm

**God Squad Jr. High:** Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Students grades 6-8 are invited to this great program.

**Sr. High Youth:** Thursdays: 7:30 to 8:45 pm. Students grades 9-12

**Upward Soccer (Ages SK to Grade 6) Game** – Saturdays 9:30 to 11:30 am

**Good Food Box** – Orders on the first Monday of each month from 3-6 pm and pick up on the third Wednesday of each month from 3-6 pm. Fresh Fruit and Vegetables... Small box \$10, Large box \$15

**Communion Lunch Service** – **First Sunday of each month** Service (10:00 am) of each month as part of the morning service. Invite a friend and bring food to share in this pot luck style meal.

**Church Property Clean Up Day** – Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 am. Contact Brian Murrant for more information [bvmurrant@gmail.com](mailto:bvmurrant@gmail.com)

**Brian Thomson Ministry Weekend at HOPE Community – June 4 & 5... [www.brianthomson.com](http://www.brianthomson.com)**

- **Saturday 12:30–3:30 pm** at the church... Training on **"How to Share your faith with others"** as we learn to see the opportunities of mission and ministry around us.
- **Sunday Morning - 10 am - Family BBQ Sunday.** Brian will be our guest speaker. There will be a community BBQ with games and activities after the service.
- Invite a friend and bring your own lawn chairs as well as salads and/or desserts to share.