

Here are six things you can do to build your relationship through prayer:

**PRAISE** – Express your love and appreciation for who God is.

**SHARE** – Share your thoughts, hopes, joys, concerns, fears and worries with Him.

**REQUEST** – Ask for His help in circumstances you face, or for those around you.

**CONFESS** – Seek reconciliation when you dishonor God by disregarding His will.

**THANK** – Thank Him for specific things He has done for you and others.

**LISTEN** – Be quiet and allow His Spirit to speak to your heart.

*Which of these do you enjoy doing often? Which are harder for you?*

## Summary Thoughts And Steps Forward

*What steps would you like to pursue to get to know God better?*

*What could you do this week to help someone else get to know Him better also?*

Try having a “Quiet Time” each day to get to know God through His Word and prayer. Use the method above for reading the passage, then respond with one or more types of prayer. Remember to regularly review the verses you already know and continue to memorize new ones.

**Psalm 34:1-8**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

**1 John 1:5 - 2:2**

**Colossians 1:9-12**

**James 1:22-25**

# 4 Basic Faith Conversations About: DEVELOPING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD



*What are the qualities that you most appreciate in a friend?*

*What do you do to get to know those things about someone*

## The Basis of a Strong Relationship

Strong relationships are built upon **knowledge, trust, and communication**. It is deeply fulfilling to get to a point in a relationship where someone knows you well (both the good and the bad), and loves you unconditionally, and, at the same time, is committed to helping you grow. As you invest in getting to know someone better, you discover their character, can appreciate who they are, and value their presence in your life. You realize they are someone you can trust.

Read **Psalms 139:1-3** and **56:9, 11**.

*What do you think made David's relationship with God so strong?*

God knows and loves you, and He invites you to discover who He is.

Read **Psalm 34:8**.

*What are some things you could do to begin to get to know God better?*

Communication between you and God is vital to building a close personal relationship.

How is Moses' relationship with God described in **Exodus 33:11**?



You can communicate with God in two ways: listening to His thoughts and sharing your own with Him.

As you share your heart with Him and get to know Him, you will begin to see who God is, how He is actively involved in your life, and learn that you can trust Him completely.

In addition to talking to God throughout the day, a great way to develop your relationship is to have a daily time you set aside for this purpose as Jesus did in **Mark 1:35**.

During this “Quiet time” you can read your Bible, talk to God in prayer, and gain God's perspective on the circumstances in your life.

*When and where do you think you could “get away” to be with God?*

**Psalm 139:1-3**

“O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You are acquainted with all my ways.”

**Psalm 56:9, 11**

“This I know, that God is for me. . . In God I trust.”

**Psalm 34:8**

“Taste and see that the Lord is good.”

**Exodus 33:11**

“The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.”

**Mark 1:35**

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

## Getting to Know God through His Word

The Bible tells the story of God's continued desire to draw people into relationship with Him. It records His thoughts, words, and actions in a variety of cultures, over many centuries. It recounts situations with real people that allow you to understand God's heart and see how others have chosen to follow, or not follow, God's direction.

What image does **Psalm 119:105** use for God's Word?

The Bible is also God's message to each of us personally. Through His Spirit, God uses the words to speak to specific situations in your life and assure you of His commitment to love you and help you follow Him.

*How would you respond if each day you received a note like this from God?*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
I know what you are going through right now.  
This is what I want to say to your heart . . .  
Here is how I want to help you and make a difference in your life . . .

Your loving Heavenly Father

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** describes how the Bible prepares us for life. God's Word:

- teaches us God's perspective (teaching),
- points out when we are not following God's way (reproof),
- shows us how to make changes in our lives (correction), and
- gives us practical instructions (training) to live a life that pleases God and blesses those around us.

*Can you think of an example of how the Bible has done one of these in your life?*

### Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

## How To Begin In God's Word

When you read a passage of the Bible, take time for the following steps. Try to answer these questions that will help you grow in your relationship with God.

**PRAY** – Ask God to help you understand His truth through the direction of His Spirit.

**DISCOVER** – Look at what God's Word says and ask yourself:

*How would I summarize this or say it in other words?*

**LISTEN** – Reflect and let God speak to your heart through these words:

*What does this communicate to me from or about God and His views?*

**RESPOND** – Respond to what God has said. Ask yourself:

*How does this affect my life? What response do I want to make to it? Do I need to believe, change, or do something in response?*

**SHARE** – Share what you have learned to help others. Ask God:

*With whom could I share the truths I have learned?*

Now try these steps with **Matthew 7:24-27** in your own Bible.

Based on this passage, how will reading and responding to God's Word affect your life?

## Sharing Your Life With God Through Prayer

It is a great privilege for us to be able to talk to God, the Creator of the Universe. Verses in **Jeremiah 33:3**, **Isaiah 65:24** and **Psalms 62:8** tell us He wants to listen.

Prayer is simply talking with God at any time, in any place, aloud or silently, with others or alone.

### Matthew 7:24-27

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

### Jeremiah 33:3

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

### Isaiah 65:24

Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

### Psalm 62:8

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.