

About the Father's Business

Many people know the story of David and Goliath. However, we almost never talk about the moments leading up to that battle.

The book of 1 Samuel, chapter 17 is where this famous story is located. We all know David was a young man, who ended up on the battlefield. When the giant Goliath came to fight, the king asked for volunteers to fight. David volunteered and defeated Goliath with the Lord on his side and a slingshot in his hand. How did he get on the battlefield in the first place?

David's father, Jesse, basically told David to go to the battlefield and take corn, bread, and cheese to the camp. King Saul and all of Israel were at a valley where this battle was taking place. The Bible says in 1 Samuel 17:20 that David left his sheep, and he went where his father commanded him. Then, he came to the trench when the host was going up for battle. David wasn't a mighty warrior, he wasn't asked to fight in the battle, but because he was about his father's business he won the victory for Israel. Do you want to win impossible battles? Do you want to slay your giant? Don't just wait for someone to call on you to fight. Do exactly what your Heavenly Father tells you. Go where he sends you. Be about his business and you will always win.

Elizabeth Gross

Church Events

- Mar 4th Choir Practice
- Mar 5th Nursing Home
- Mar 7th Staff Meeting
- Mar 12th Ministerial Training
- Mar 14th CALM Meeting
- Mar 19th Nursing Home
- Mar 26th Men's
 Breakfast

The Name of Jesus

Alpha & Omega King of kings Lord of lords Jehovah Jireh Jehovah Nissi Jehovah Rapha Emmanuel Wonderful Counselor Redeemer Healer And so on and so on. God goes by so many names. I don't think we could count how many names He goes by. Because He is so many things to us, we call him so many different names. But we need a revelation of the greatest name God has ever been called. Jesus. The name of Jesus is higher than ANY other name, even all those names listed in this article. The name of Jesus is higher than 'Prince of Peace', higher than 'Emmanuel'! When you speak the name Jesus, you are speaking something higher than every other name of God. When you speak Jesus, you are speaking the fullness of God, all His attributes, His character, and His power. There is such power in His name!

"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow... and that every tongue should confess..." Philippians 2:10-11

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every other name" Philippians 2:9

The Essence of God

I am presently 39 years old, I have been a believer in Jesus Christ most of my life. When I was a young child, I was introduced to God through prayer by my parents. At a very early age, I repented, was baptized in Jesus name, and received the gift of the Holy Ghost. Some of my earliest memories are of feeling the presence of God and seeing visions on the walls of the church, being slain in the Spirit of the Lord, and knowing what the Love of God feels like in a very personal way.

As life often does, it threw a curveball at me. My father left and my mother quit going to church. So the amazing experiences I had in church came to an end. I soon grew up, filling my life with things that would eventually bury all the memories of the wonderful experiences I had with the Lord.

At the age of nineteen, I was invited to go to church with my grandmother, and it didn't take long before the presence I had felt so long ago surrounded me again. Needless to say, it wasn't long before I was once again full of the Holy Ghost and in search for

what the Lord wanted from me.

It's been twenty years and God has not changed. The same Love that surrounded me as a child still embraces me when I seek Jesus. No matter what situation I'm in, He is always the same. I wanted to write something that would help someone understand "The Essence of God". The Word of God has so many ways to help us understand his nature, his personality, and his goodness. Without a doubt, God is One, holy, righteous, merciful, and loving. The Bible says God is love, so you could say love is the essence of God and that would be considered true. I've come to realize that the understanding that we have of concepts like love, holy, and good are often lacking when God is concerned. The things we know are based on experiences we have with people, not Jesus. The essence of God cannot be understood through the feelings we had when parents loved us or when someone tries to explain what holy means. The essence of God is not head knowledge. (Cont. on next page)

Favorite Scriptures

"My favorite scripture is Jeremiah 29:11: For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

When I read it, it lets me know the only thing I have to do is trust the Lord. He knows the plans He has for my life. His plans will help me and never hurt me. If I just follow God's will, and let Him lead and guide me, I will prosper."

Jonathan Hamilton

"Proverbs 31:30 : Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

This verse reminds me what it means to be a virtuous woman and that I should strive to be that kind of woman."

Angel Gross

"Romans 5:8 : But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

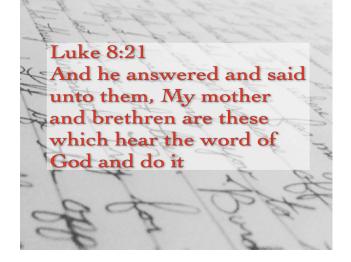
This reminds me that God's love is so strong that even before I knew him he loved me. And when I mess up, He will still love me no matter what."

Melody Gross

"Psalms 13:23-24 : Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, try me and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Thelma Hurley

"John 3:16 : For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Alyssia Justice



The Essence of God Continued

The essence of God is not head knowledge, you can't learn what He is. You have to experience God. The Lord is self-revealing, just as I understood when I was a child as I was surrounded by the unchanging presence of Jesus. As I read the Bible, it puts into words what I had already experienced as a child. Peter was a fisherman, yet he taught the Pharisees. His knowledge of scripture was not what he drew from, it was his experience with Jesus that gave him understanding and wisdom. The Word of God is more than words in a book. It is Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Spending time with Jesus is the only way to understand his essence. The awareness of his presence in your life and taking the opportunity He provides to become close to Him is essential in knowing who He is. The written Word gives us the description of what God intends for us to experience in a physical and spiritual way. Luke 8:21 : "And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God and do it."

You can know about God without ever knowing Him.

My prayer is that we will never be satisfied with just a description of who God is, but that his written Word will give us the definition for what we have already experienced.

Bro. Adam Gross