

Relationship with God –

God is a Spirit.
 God is a person.
 God is power
 God is light
 God is love
 God is eternal
 God is the creator of all there is.

How can we know God?

1 Timothy 2:5 There is One God and there is one mediator between God and Men
 The Man Christ Jesus.

John 14: 6 “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except by me”

Really, anyone can say this. When I studied in the United States there was a man who called himself Father Divine. He started Divine Missions throughout America. He also said: "I am the Way", in fact he said, "I am God". He called himself Father Divine. One day he got sick and some time later he died. His followers scattered. Today there are no Divine Missions.

Jesus also said I am the Way to God. In fact He also said in John 10:30: “The Father and I are one. When you see me you see the Father. Jesus also died and was buried.

But on the 3rd day Jesus rose from the dead and was seen for 40 days by many people. Today there are more followers of Jesus Christ than any other religion.

We can know God via the Mediator, Jesus Christ.

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 The birth of Jesus is the greatest miracle ever! God became man. How is this possible? Same question Mary asked the Angel Gabriel. The answer is in Luke 1:34-35 “How will this be”, Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered: “the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the most high will overshadow you, so the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”

The same angel also appeared to Joseph because Joseph was about to separate from his fiancé when he discovered she was pregnant. “Joseph, don’t be afraid to take Mary home as your wife because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins”.

What is keeping us from having a relationship with God?

The problem is called sin. Sin separates you and I from God. God is holy. God desires for you and I to be holy. Leviticus 11:14, “Be holy for I am holy”.

All people are sinners..

Psalm 14:2 God is looking down to see if anyone understands and seeks God. What does God see? “All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt. There is no one who does good, not not even one”.

Romans 3:10-12 There is none righteous, not even one. No one who does good, not even one. V. 23, There is no difference. It doesn't matter whom you are, where you come from, or what religion you belong to. “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”.

All sin can be forgiven.

God wants to save all people, without exception. 2 Peter 3:9 “God is not willing that any perish but that all people come to repentance and a knowledge of the truth”

If we confess with our mouth that we are sinners – speak to God in prayer
The Bible says that God is faithful and just and He will clean us from all sin. 1 John 1:9
“Confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in our heart that God has raised Him from the dead you will be saved. Roman 10:9.

One time I organized a camping program for young people at Puncak. We had about 150 young people there. One young man named Robson Simangunsong came to camp with a bag of mariwana. He heard testimonies of young people who had believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and whose lives had been changed. He came to me and asked “can God forgive me, can He change me?” So I explained the Gospel story to Robson and he became a believer.

What do you and I need to do?

Believe John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Receive John 1:12 “Yet to all who received Him, to those who believe in His name, He gave the right to become the children of God.”

Repent Acts 2:38 “Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”.

That means that God will come and live in you. You will have a relationship with God. You continue life together with God.

How do we maintain a relationship with God?

Remember we know God through Jesus Christ.

What kind of relationship are we talking about?

A love relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus loves us the way we are. So many illustrations in the Bible.

Nikodemus, Zacheus, A rich young man, a woman caught in the act of adultery,

The murderer hanging on the cross next to him.

We in turn love Jesus. We respect Him, honor Him, obey Him, follow Him, we are faithful to Him.

Communication

We listen to Him. He speaks to us through His Word.

We talk to Him in prayer.

Submission

He is in charge. He is our commander. He is called the King of kings.

He wants to guide our lives.

Once I traveled by ship from Rotterdam to Montreal, Canada. When we came into Canadian waters a Canadian Pilot took charge of the Dutch ship. The Dutch captain surrendered his ship to the pilot. The captain was still on board but the control of the ships was now with the Canadian pilot. Jesus Christ wants to be in control of our lives.

Availability.

He is alive. We received His spirit

He wants to work in and through us

He wants to function. He desires to live His life in and through us.

The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Jesus Christ has no body. So how can He function today?

As we are available to Him He can function.

For 9 years I lived among the Asmat people in Papua. It was not easy.

I had to continually remind myself that Jesus Christ wants to save these people from their sins. He died for them on the cross. How could Jesus speak to them? It was through me

So I had to learn their language. I had to be available to the Lord Jesus Christ.