

Eternal Life Now: Knowing Jesus Personally

John 17:1-5



this is
**Eternal
Life**

November 9, 2025

DAY 1: BEYOND FACTS TO FRIENDSHIP

READING: JOHN 17:1-5

We can know many facts about Jesus—His miracles, teachings, and sacrifice—yet still not truly know Him. Just as knowing statistics about an athlete doesn't mean you're friends with them, knowing about Jesus isn't the same as knowing Him personally. Jesus invites us beyond information into intimacy. Eternal life begins when we move from head knowledge to heart relationship.

Today, Jesus asks: Do you just know about Me, or do you actually know Me? The difference transforms everything. He doesn't want admirers who can recite facts; He wants friends who walk with Him daily, sharing life's moments—the joys, struggles, and ordinary days. Knowing Jesus personally changes how we live right now, not just where we go after death.

Reflection: What's one way you can move from knowing about Jesus to knowing Him today?

DAY 2: THE HOUR HAS COME

READING: ROMANS 5:6-11

"The hour has come" wasn't a moment of tragedy but of victory. Jesus faced the cross with purposeful determination, knowing this appointed moment would reconcile enemies to God. Here's the stunning truth: while we were still sinners—enemies of God—Christ died for us. Nothing in us made us loveable, yet He loved us enough to lay down His life. This wasn't about our goodness; it was about His glory revealed through self-giving love.

The cross shows both God's justice and His love existing in the same powerful moment. When we grasp that Jesus went to the cross for us while we were His enemies, it rattles our comfortable faith. We weren't saved because we deserved it, but because He desired us.

Reflection: How does knowing Jesus died for you as His enemy, not His friend, change your understanding of grace?

DAY 3: ETERNAL LIFE STARTS NOW

READING: JOHN 10:7-10

Eternal life isn't a distant reality that begins after death—it starts the moment you know Jesus. He came to give abundant life now, not just a future promise. We're invited to participate in God's eternal kingdom today, experiencing His presence, power, and purpose in real time. When a broken relationship mends through Christ, that's eternity breaking in. When someone overcomes addiction, we taste eternity. When we extend forgiveness or experience peace in chaos, we're living in the eternal now.

Jesus didn't come so we could sit around waiting for heaven; He came so we could actively partner with Him in bringing His kingdom to earth. This changes everything about how we view our daily lives—each moment holds eternal significance.

Reflection: Where do you see glimpses of eternity breaking into your life right now?

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DAY 4: ACCOMPLISHED WORK

READING: JOHN 19:28-30

"I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do." Before facing the most brutal death, Jesus declared victory. His singular focus was completing His kingdom assignment—revealing the Father and making reconciliation possible. When Jesus cried "It is finished" on the cross, He wasn't admitting defeat; He was announcing completion. The work of salvation was accomplished. Nothing more needs to be added.

This can bring profound peace: your salvation doesn't depend on your performance but on His finished work. You're not trying to earn what's already been given. Jesus didn't partially save you, leaving the rest up to you. He fully, completely, eternally accomplished your redemption. Rest in the finished work of Christ.

Reflection: What are you trying to accomplish that Jesus has already finished?

DAY 5: INCARNATION TO RESTORATION

READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Four words capture Jesus' journey: Incarnation—God took human form. Obedience—Jesus followed the Father's plan perfectly. Glorification—the cross revealed God's true nature. Restoration—one day, all things will be made new. This progression shows God's comprehensive plan for humanity. He didn't stay distant; He came near. He didn't demand we climb to Him; He descended to us. The incarnation means God understands your struggles because He lived them. His obedience means you have a path to follow. His glorification means death doesn't win. His restoration means your brokenness has a future.

What will you do with this truth? Will you shrug it off, or surrender to this good news? Living in eternal life now means participating in this restoration story today.

Reflection: How does knowing God's plan from incarnation to restoration give you hope for today's challenges?