The Omniscience of God

Lesson for Sunday, June 1, 2025

INTRODUCTION:

* Humanly speaking, who knows you better than anyone?
  + Probably a spouse, best friend, a mom or dad…
  + If your class is fun have them share something about themselves that no one else knows!
* Even the people that know us best don’t know us completely. To be completely known means that they know our every thought and even our motives.
* At the same time, there has been much research conducted that reveals that the majority of people have a deep longing to be known by someone else.
* In recent years, even with the evolution of connectivity, people report being more “unknown” than ever before. Coupled with the desire to be known at a deep level, this leads to skyrocketing percentages of depression, anxiety and despair.
* For the Christian, this should not be a problem because we serve an omniscient God who knows us even better than we know ourselves!
* Once again, the theology of God brings us great comfort and meets our deepest needs.

BIBLE STUDY:

1. God knows everything.
   1. Omniscience is most simply defined as: God knows everything.
      1. God knows Himself and all other things; actual or possible, past, present and future. He knows things immediately, simultaneously, exhaustively and truly.
      2. Consider these texts: Proverbs 15:3; 1 John 3:20; Romans 11:33
   2. God has infinite knowledge of everything.
      1. No created being has complete and perfect knowledge of himself (Jeremiah 17:9). But God knows Himself perfectly.
      2. God knows all things existing: inanimate creation (Ps. 147:4), men and all their works (Ps. 33:13-15), men’s thoughts and hearts (Prov. 15:3), and men’s burdens and wants (Matt. 6:32).
      3. God knows all things possible. He has knowledge of the possible as well as the actual.
      4. God knows the future.
2. God knows everything about you (Psalm 139:1-6).
   1. Verse 1:
      1. “Searched” implies thorough examination, like a miner digging for precious metals.
      2. “Known” signifies relational, intimate knowledge (not just factual awareness).
      3. *Takeaway*: God’s knowledge of us is both exhaustive and personal.
   2. Verse 2:
      1. God knows our actions (daily routines) and thoughts (even unspoken ones).
      2. *Takeaway*: God is well-aware of even the smallest details of our lives.
   3. Verse 3:
      1. God sees our journey (choices, habits, struggles) and is “acquainted” (familiar) with every detail.
      2. *Takeaway*: God is interested in every aspect of our lives.
   4. Verse 4:
      1. God’s knowledge is preemptive. He knows our words before we speak.
      2. *Takeaway*: God hears us before we even speak!
   5. Verse 5:
      1. “God has beset me behind and before” means to “encircle” or “protect” or “to hem in.”
      2. *Takeaway*: God’s knowledge is coupled with His presence and protection.
   6. When we consider God’s omniscience, we are led to respond as David did. Think of what we have learned these first few weeks about God: All-loving, perfectly holy, always with us. Why would God be so interested in us?
      1. Verse 6: *“Such knowledge is too wonderful… I cannot grasp it”*:
      2. David’s response is awe, not fear.
3. The Difference God’s Omniscience Makes
   1. There are three key themes that we notice when considering God’s omniscience.
   2. First is God’s intimacy. He knows us better than we know ourselves. Our response to this is two-fold. It scares us but should also bring us great comfort. We long to be known at a deep level, and God fulfills that longing.
   3. Second is God’s sovereignty. His knowledge is active, not passive. He “searches” and “hems us in.”
   4. Third is our humility. How do we respond to such a great God? With awe, trust and humility.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

* How does knowing God sees *everything* (actions, thoughts, words) affect how you live daily?
* Why might David describe God’s knowledge as “too wonderful” (v. 6) rather than frightening?
* How can God’s omniscience comfort you in moments of loneliness or uncertainty?
* God’s omniscience is not a cold, distant truth - it’s an invitation to live freely, knowing we are fully known, fully loved, and never alone.