

Getting to Know . . .



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How to Fill Out These “Getting to Know God” Studies:

Each study takes five days to complete. For every day there are clear instructions on what to do and then a prayer thought that will help to make the study a part of your life. This daily discipline is the one and only way to really grow spiritually. At the end of ten short weeks you will not only gain spiritual knowledge but will better understand what it means to be a faithful disciple. Additional texts on the last page provide material for further study on each lesson.

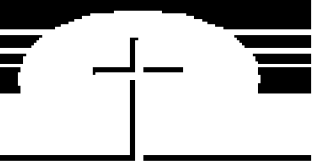
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1. The God Who Can Change Your Life

God has revealed His truth to us for practical reasons. In this first lesson we will get to know the God who can change us by studying the first miracle Jesus performed at the wedding feast at Cana. We'll learn that just as Jesus changed the water into wine, He has the wisdom and power to change our lives if we put our entire trust in Him. You can build a strong foundation to change your life by committing at least fifteen minutes every day to answer the questions and pray.

Jesus Changes the Water Into Wine

John 2:1-11 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

4 "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so,

9 and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside 10 and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

11 This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

1. Running On Empty

Day 1

Read John 2:1-11 at least twice and then do the exercise which follows:

Fill in the boxes with what they ran out of back then and what we run out of today.

Back then they ran out of . . . _____ _____	Today I tend to run out of . . . Example: Patience, money . . . _____ _____
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Prayer Thought . . . O Lord, I always seem to be running out of _____. Please perform a miracle now, like you did back then and supply my need according to your Almighty power and wisdom.

2. “Do whatever He tells you.”

Day 2 Read the whole story two times again and then do the exercise:
Fill in the boxes which shows the importance of obeying the Lord.

What did Mary ask the servants to do? _____ _____	What did Jesus ask the servants to do? 1. _____ 2. _____
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Prayer Thought . . . O Lord, help me to follow You in the steps of obedience so You can perform that wonderful, miraculous change I need in my life.

3. Exercising Faith

Day 3 Meditate on the story again and answer this question:
If the feast was out of wine, then what sense did it make for the servants to fill up the jars with water and give them to the master of the feast? _____

Important Note: The Bible tells us that: “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1).

Prayer Thought . . . Dear Lord, help me to exercise faith by obeying You, even I don’t always completely understand Your ways.

4. The Wonderful Miracle

Day 4 Look at the story again with this thought in mind:
When do you think the water was changed into wine?

The water turned into wine as soon as they filled up the water jars. _____ _____	The water turned into wine as they did everything Jesus told them to do. _____ _____
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Prayer Thought . . . O Lord, help me to keep trusting in You, even if I don’t immediately see the results that I am looking for.

5. Faith: The Most Important Thing on the Planet

Day 5 Read the story again and see what was the ultimate purpose of this miracle:
According to John 2:11, what was the result of this miracle on the disciples? _____

Prayer Thought . . . Dear Lord, I need You now as they needed You back then. May my faith grow as I see the wonderful changes You are bringing about in my life.



2. The God Who Created the Universe

In this second lesson we will take a short survey of the Bible by looking at what the Word of God reveals about both the beginning and ending of our world and how Jesus can restore our hope for the future. By carefully studying each lesson for fifteen minutes every day, you will be laying the foundation for a strong and mature faith.

1. How Did the World Begin?

Genesis 1:1,31; 2:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. . . . 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning —the sixth day. 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed. . . . 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work.

Day 1 Read this important text at least three times and then do the exercise:
One good way to study any text is to use a pen or pencil. Underline all the important terms in the text above. Then go to the diagram on the next page and use a crayon to color the upper left-hand circle to show how God created “A Perfect World.”

Prayer Thought . . . O Lord, You who created all things, may I have confidence that the One who made the glorious universe has taken an active and loving interest in everything that concerns me.

2. How Will the World End?

Revelation 21:1,4 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. . . . 4 He [God] will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Day 2 Read this text at least three times and then follow the instructions:
The Bible both begins and ends with a perfect world. Fill in the box below and then go to the diagram on the next page and use an appropriate crayon to color the upper right-hand circle to show how God created “A Perfect World.”

List below some of the negative things that won't be in heaven

Prayer Thought . . . Dear Lord, thank-You for being a sensitive, tender-hearted God, who not only will wipe away our tears in the future but desires to comfort us in the world of sorrow now.

3. Who Corrupted Our World?

Genesis 6:11-12 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. 12 God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways.

Day 3 Read these verses four times and then do the following exercise:

Underline how the earth appeared to God in Genesis 6:11.

Who does the Bible say corrupted the earth in Genesis 6:12? _____

Prayer Thought . . . O Lord, thank-You for not turning Your back on our corrupt ways.

4. How Do We Get to Heaven?

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Day 4 Read this very important text and answer the following questions based on John 3:16:

Which world did God love . . . the perfect or corrupt world? _____

What did God give in order to save us? _____

According to this verse, how do we get to heaven? _____

Is everyone going to make it to heaven according to John 3:16? _____

Prayer Thought . . . O Lord, help me to learn how to believe and trust in You so that I might not perish on this present corrupt world but live with You forever on the future perfect world.

5. Faith: The Most Important Thing on the Planet

Day 5 Read the following definition of faith five times and underline the important terms:

“Faith is trusting God--believing that He loves us and knows best what is for our good. Thus, instead of our own, it leads us to choose His way. In place of our ignorance, it accepts His wisdom; in place of our weakness, His strength; in place of our sinfulness, His righteousness. Our lives, ourselves, are already His; faith acknowledges His ownership and accepts its blessing. Truth, uprightness, purity, have been pointed out as secrets of life's success. It is faith that puts us in possession of these principles.”

Taken from the book Education, page 253 by Ellen G. White

