

Do You Know...

When I meet new people and they find out that I am an Architect practicing in Little Rock they often ask me if I know someone else who is an architect in Little Rock. Many times I may have met the person they are asking about once or twice, or I'm familiar with their work, but if you asked me what kind of car they drove, their children's names, how they take their coffee, etc., I usually have no idea. I don't really know them. The only way to really get to know them would be to visit with them, which would include talking - words. We can learn a lot about people from their actions, researching their history, from seeing them daily, etc. But to really get to know them they have to tell us things about themselves that may not be evident any other way. It takes words.

Similarly, to get to know God, we have to spend time in His word. We can learn a lot from looking at nature, from going to church, from doing missions work, from volunteering at a soup kitchen or a homeless shelter, from reading books about God. But if we really want to know God, we have got to read His word, the Bible. In His word, He reveals things to us that we would never learn any other way. There are things we would never figure out about God without reading His word.

And God realized that even then we were having trouble getting a grip on what He is trying to tell us in the bible, so He decided to send us His "Word", Jesus, to fully explain Himself to us. In John chapter 1 we read that the "Word" "became flesh and dwelt among us, and that we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth". That "no one has seen God, but the only begotten of the Father has explained Him to us". We also read that "the "Word" was in the beginning with God", and that the "Word" "was God, and that all things were made by Him".

In God's Son, The "Word", we learn even more about God. Jesus showed us the Father. Then He became sin on our behalf on the cross, that through Him, through the "Word", we can come to know God to the fullest extent possible this side of eternity. He is the doorway to a relationship with God. No one can know the Father apart from Him. He was here at creation, speaking the universe into existence, then He visited us in the incarnation, and now He has gone to prepare a place for us and ultimately will return for us. The word of God - do you know it? The "Word" of God - do you know Him?