

He Knows Me by Name!

Key Scripture:

*"But now, thus says the LORD, your Creator, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel,
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!"*
Isaiah 43:1 (NASB77)

Portion for the Journey:

He knows your name! It is personal with God. We are not just a name in a phone book or a census list. In the Scripture, a person's name represented the essence of the person's heart, personality and ways. When God reveals His name to us, it He reveals aspects of His very nature to us. In sharing His name, He invites us into a personal relationship with Him.

When Mary went to the Garden Tomb on resurrection day, she wept because the tomb was empty and she did not know where they had taken Jesus body. When she saw Him, she did not recognize her Lord. She thought He was the gardener -- until He said her name -- "Mary!" Can you put yourself in Mary's place and imagine the thrill to hear the voice of her beloved Master saying her name? Do you realize God also knows you by name? Can you imagine hearing your name on His lips as Mary did? Do you believe deep in your heart the LORD knows and loves you deeply?

Does it ever feel presumptuous to appropriate His love and the kind of relationship we read about in His word for yourself? One can readily see the close relationship He had with King David, Moses or His disciples, but why is it hard to believe His Word is personal and meant for you as an individual? It is often hard to accept these promises are for meant each of us personal through Jesus. I believe it is because we are so aware of the imperfection of our own hearts that we think we need to stand back. Satan, the accuser of the brethren, also stands ready with accusations to make us feel unworthy or unloved. God's Word tells us this is not true if we have been born again in Jesus!

God spoke to Moses face to face as a man speaks to his friend. He spoke to the prophets of old in this same way, but in the New Testament, we are all given the Holy Spirit by which we are to be brought into oneness with the LORD! Will we be content, as Israel when they decided to stand far off and let Moses speak to God for them? God wanted them all to be a kingdom of priests who would stand in His presence and walk in intimate friendship with Him. We will find Him when we seek Him with all of our heart! Ex. 19:3-6; 20:18-21; 1 Pet 2:9; John 17:6-26

Zechariah gives us a beautiful view into the heavenlies in which we see one man standing before the LORD in filthy garments. Satan stood at Joshua's right hand as his adversary in order to accuse him. God defended Joshua and rebuked Satan. He reminded Satan Joshua was a brand plucked from the fire. The LORD removed his filthy garments and these were really, really filthy garments! The Hebrew word for clothed literally means 'covered or wrapped up in' and the word for 'filthy' was the Hebrew word for 'human excrement!' These garments were taken away and God clothed him in festal robes and a turban (which is also the word for 'crown')! Festal robes are a mantle, signifying God's anointing for royalty or a high position in the court. Festal robes were made out of a very fine quality of pure white linen. They were also worn at weddings or other times of celebration and rejoicing. In the Scriptures, garments testify to the position, character and quality of the person who is wearing them. We see this today, we recognize the doctor by his white lab coat, a policeman by his uniform, a priest by his robes. Isn't it amazing that our Father not only accepted him, clothed him in the garments of royalty! These robes are

He Knows Me by Name!

not a costume He gives us to wear, they signify the new person He has created us to be and the position He wants us to fulfill. Along with the robes and turban, God also, if he would walk in God's ways, gave him authority, free access to His throne room and the angels who were standing amongst them!! Read Zech. 3:1-7 and take some time to really think about how this applies to your life!

He has made us accepted in the Beloved! "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love, He predestined us for adoption as sons through Christ, according to the purpose of His will to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the beloved." Eph. 1:3-7 "The Beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by Him, He covers Him all day long and makes his dwelling between His shoulders." Deut. 33:12

Make this proclamation of truth: God accepts Me!! God has made me acceptable!! It is through the grace of God that He accepts me. What a glorious thought to contemplate. He totally accepts me and loves me! I am His and He loves me unconditionally!

Digging Deeper in the Word:

Jesus said He knows your name! His words are truth and life for each of us! The promises and truths in God's Word are meant for all who believe! Why do we find it easier to believe that His commands and instructions for right living than to accept His words of love and desire for intimate relationship with us? James 4:5 (AMP) says, "Or do you suppose that the Scripture is speaking to no purpose that says, The Spirit Whom He has caused to dwell in us yearns over us and He yearns for the Spirit [to be welcome] with a jealous love?"

All Scripture is to be understood and applied in our lives! A good principle to follow when meditating on His Word is to first ask the LORD to speak to you personally. Ask Him to show you anything that is hindering your ability to receive and apply His truth to your heart. Ask Him to plant His Word deep in your heart and show you how He wants you to apply it in your life. If He convicts you of falling short of the mark, confess, repent and ask for His help to walk in the new direction He shows you. When we have applied it ourselves, we can pray for others to receive this truth. John 6:63; 2 Tim. 3:16; John 7:38; 10:35 (AMP); 1 Cor. 2:9; Rom. 10:18; Acts 8:25-39

Ask the LORD to show you if any of these thoughts hinder your ability to believe He knows your name:

1. Do you believe God is unapproachable? Does God seem far away on His throne in an unapproachable heaven? His Word clearly shows us that while the Father is on His throne, and Jesus at His right hand, He sent His Holy Spirit to be with us always. He calls us to draw near to Him and promises that when we draw near to Him, He is near to us! Through Jesus, the Holy Spirit leads us into His Holy of Holies. Meditate on these verses and speak to the LORD in your awareness of His nearness. Ps 73:28; John 16:7; Ps 91:14; Deut 31:6; Heb 13:5; James 4:8
2. Do you believe that it is possible for you to have a close, personal relationship with the LORD like Mary experienced? Read the account of Mary meeting Jesus in the garden after His resurrection. (John 20:1-15, 16) Can you accept that He loves you as much as He loved Mary? Why or why not? If your answer is "no," what keeps you from accepting that such a relationship between you and the LORD is possible.

He Knows Me by Name!

3. Can you comprehend He knows and delights in you? I don't remember the exact movie's title, but we have all seen it -- when the crisis moment arrives and the young woman has reason to doubt her fiancé's love for her. At this critical point in time, he replied, "I love everything about you! I love the way you smile, the way you hiccup when you laugh too hard, the way you blush when you are feeling self-conscious, the way you twirl your hair in your little finger when you are concentrating." After his little speech the audience, as well as the "bride to be" are completely convinced of his love. Why? Because he showed that he was totally paying attention to every detail of who she is and more than that, that he loved her with all of her idiosyncrasies. His declaration of love reminded me of words that the LORD has spoken to us, declaring His closeness and love for every little detail of who we are as individuals!

It is one thing to accept that God so loves "the world" but it is another thing to really believe in His love for you individually. Take some time with each of these verses and make them personal to His relationship with YOU! Write down the verses that go with each of the following statements. Hint: Some answers might go in two places or more! There is a worksheet at the end of this lesson that you can use to complete this exercise. It will be worth your time!!

- ♥ God knows ME! (i.e. He numbers the hairs of my head) Ps. 139 (entire chapter)
- ♥ God loves ME!! (i.e. He keeps every one of my tears in a bottle) Ps. 56:8
- ♥ God will accomplish all that concerns ME!! Ps. 138:8

Isa. 43:1-7
Psalm 139 (Entire chapter)
Matt. 10:29-31
Isa. 49:1-5
Isa. 49:15-16
John 10:3, 27-29
Ex. 33:12, 17
Isa. 40:26
Isa. 45:4
Ps. 56:8-9
Ps 121:3-8
Prov. 5:21

Jer. 1:5
Ps. 27 (entire chapter)
John 10:27
John 10:3
John 10:14-15
Rom. 8:27-37
Matt. 10:29-31
Rev. 3:5
Phil. 4:3
1 Cor. 8:3
Ps. 100:3
Ps. 138:8

5. Read the statements of truth written below. Replace the collective "us or we" with your name or "I or my" to help the reality of your inclusion in this promise really sink into your heart. Read the passage aloud using your name.

"But God—so rich is He in His mercy! Because of *and* in order to satisfy the great *and* wonderful *and* intense love with which He loved _____ **us**, Even when _____ **we** were dead (slain) by [_____ 's **our** own] shortcomings *and* trespasses, He made _____ **us** alive together in fellowship *and* in union with Christ; [He gave _____ **us** the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him, for] it is by grace (His favor and mercy which you did not deserve) that you are saved (delivered from judgment and made partakers of Christ's salvation). And He raised _____ **us** up together with Him and made _____ **us** sit down together

He Knows Me by Name!

[giving _____ **us** joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One). He did this that He might clearly demonstrate through the ages to come the immeasurable (limitless, surpassing) riches of His free grace (His unmerited favor) in [His] kindness *and* goodness of heart toward _____ **us** in Christ Jesus. Eph 2:4-7 (AMP)

6. It is important that we walk in the truth of the great work God has completed in us when He remade us as new creatures in the very image of His own Son. Remember, our Adversary seeks to bring accusation against us! He wants us to walk in failure and condemnation, while our Father wants us to walk in the newness of life wrapped in His clean white garments! Do your words and actions line up with who you now are in Christ? Ask the LORD to help you take captive all of your thoughts to the obedience of Jesus Christ. Instead of proclaiming, "I can't..." or "I am not..." proclaim the Truth "I can do all things through Jesus Christ..." and "Through Jesus, I am ..."

7. Walk daily in the knowledge that your life is wrapped up in Jesus Christ, the one who knows everything about you, loves you and is closer than a friend or relative. He loves you! Look up the verses on the chart and fill in the columns with the insights you gain pertaining to your relationship with God.

Listen to Maranatha Singers: He Knows My Name (YouTube)

What is the Lord showing you?

How do you want to respond to the Lord? (Make this your prayer to Him.)

He Knows Me by Name!

Scripture Passage	He Knows Me	He Loves Me	He Will Protect & Accomplish What Concerns Me
Ps 56:8-9	He records all of my wanderings; or You keep track of all my sorrows (NLT)	He puts all of my tears in a bottle. He is paying close attn when I cry. My tears are so precious He keeps them, writes them in His book	He sees me wherever I go. When I cry out to Him, my enemies will turn back. <u>God is for me!</u>
Ps 100:3			
Ps 121(entire Ch.)			
Ps 139 (entire Ch.)			
Ps 27 (entire Ch.)			
Matt. 10:29-31			
John 10:3			
John 10:14-15			
John 10:27-29			
Isa 40:26			
Isa 43:1-7			

He Knows Me by Name!

Isa 45:4			
Isa. 49:1-5			
Isa 49:15-16			
Rom 8:27-37			
Ex 33:12, 17			
Rev 3:5			
Phil 4:3			
Prov 5:21			
1 Cor 8:3			
Jer 1:5			
Ps 138:8			