

**FOCUS
ON
JESUS**

Jesus in our darkness

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Matthew 11:27 (The Message).

The Bible is all about relationships. We are loved, included, special but we don't know it. We are wrong-headed and adjust our inadequacies by creating an importance THAT WE CAN SEE.

"knows" Bible= intimate and implies deep communion. And the way Jesus knows the father is the way he wants us to know him too. Jesus wants the Father known. His heart. His lavish embrace. His endless love

Why? Why does Jesus want the Father known? This is the question you will have to answer for yourself

John 17:3 This statement penetrates the question of conversion, reconciliation and revelation. If eternal life is knowing the Father, then is eternal death not knowing the Father? Sin is the cause of our NOT KNOWING. Sin has to do with being blind; **1 Corinthians 2:14 (11-16 – discuss?)** God's story (bible) is all about his love, and his relationship with humanity. He speaks. He reveals. He gives. He shares. Just as in any relationship.

- We are designed to experience life **Know the Father's heart -Hear his voice-Perceive His lavish embrace**

Becoming blind to the Father is the single greatest disaster that could possibly happen to us. Adam and Even went from intimacy to HIDING in fear. Why? Fear came after their outright disobedience. Were they afraid of God's punishment. Genesis 2:17 Had God changed? Adam and Eve had no record or experience of punishment! All they had had were astonishing blessings. Perhaps Adam's infidelity changed his default settings of how they perceived God. And – it has got more distorted ever since.

2 Corinthians 8:9 What changed in the relationship was Adam. He projected his pain on to God and created a new kind of god, a mythological deity. But it was frightening to Adam – it was real. He now sees a god as unstable as he is. And he's staring down the barrel of a gun of rejection BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HE WOULD DO!

If our knowledge and understanding of God is skewed then knowledge of our self is wrong and we go back and forth with wrong perceptions.

The truth about the father is eclipsed! And Adam cannot see the Father's face; know His heart; hear his voice. And God is misunderstood. Reconciliation is not about God wiping the slate clean. **It's so much more! He is offering us everything that he has with the father. Without conversion we do not have the CAPACITY to receive the revelation and know the Father!** So reconciliation is about the Son coming and understanding our god. Seeing our God, experiencing the brokenness. Our processor is broken. What the Father SAYS is one thing, what we HEAR is another. We perceive everything through our mental baggage. So the revelation Jesus offers is skewed. The fallen mind is a misreading machine

But there is One who does know the Father and it is His passion that we do too. He shares with him all things in fellowship with the Spirit.

John 1:14 Jesus didn't come to change God but to identify with us, to stand on our side of the mess, to see what we see in our blindness and shame. He became flesh as well as human. He didn't do it from a decent distance like camping out on the frontiers of our great darkness and shouting across a chasm! No he is inside our hell and he still is.

So it's actually not about you inviting Jesus into your heart at all. It's about Jesus already including you in His own. Through His suffering He has forged a living union between his communion with the Father and you in your darkness. And we are free to enjoy this life of adoption in the freedom of the Spirit.