

## Psalm 139: Embracing His Knowing

Read Psalm 139:17-24

Every moment of your existence, from eternity through eternity, you are completely wrapped in God's knowledge and care. His knowledge of you is constant, intimate, and inescapable. How will you respond to such a God?

As you face Him, you will realize that as He knows you, He wants you to know Him. Such is the nature of love. It desires a mutual knowing. And knowing Him is one of life's greatest privileges and greatest adventures (see vv.17-18). What an amazing Being! While God knows all of you, you will never be able to imagine all of Him. But He wants you to know Him, and if your heart is open to Him, He will reveal Himself to you more and more.

*God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5, NIV)*

You'll find that as you know Him, you will trust Him. You will love Him. And as you love Him, you will know Him more and more. As your relationship with Him grows, His mind and His heart will form inside you. You will grow to see the world and the people around you through His eyes. You will come to love whom He loves and grieve over what grieves Him (see vv.19-22).

Look at the last two verses of Psalm 139. Remember how the Psalm started? In the beginning, the writer uncomfortably observed that God searched him and knew him completely. Now, in vv.23-24, he comes full circle. He prays for that knowing and searching. As he embraces and appreciates God's intimate knowing of Him, he longs to be more completely and intentionally open before God. He desires to be completely right with Him and completely pleasing to Him.

As you turn to the God who knows you, that will be your longing as well. Your goal will be complete openness with God. No more useless hiding. You will hunger to be thoroughly pleasing to Him. Constant prayer. Eager confession. Deeper and deeper dependence on Him.

*Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(“Collect for Purity” from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

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