

## How to Understand God and Receive His Light

### Introduction:

1. Are there any guys in here who can boast that you have completely figured out women?
  - You may have figured out **some** things, but there are other things you have not figured out and never will figure out.
2. By the same token, you will never completely figure out God while living on this earth (Romans 11:34). To figure out God would mean that you would be on the same level as God. God would be no bigger than you.
3. But, God has revealed about Himself what we **need** to know, and it is found in His Word (Ephesians 1:9, 5:17; 1 John 5:20).
4. God gave Christ to this earth to come and live a perfect life and then die on the cross, and rise again on the third day.
5. God then gave us the apostle Paul to reveal to us what was **accomplished** through Christ's work. Paul reveals that Christ made a full and complete payment for our sins on the cross. Now we can be reconciled to God and receive the very life of God.
6. Notice what words that Christ spoke to Paul when Paul got saved on the Road to Damascus. Acts 26:16-18
7. This was the commission that God gave to Paul, and Paul began to take this message to the world. This is CrossRoads' core message. This is the message that Christ has given us to share with Daytona Beach, but not just Daytona Beach. Colossians 1:28 teaches that we have an "*every man*" ministry.
8. How do we accomplish such a daunting task? This is where we must work and partner with other people—missionaries. Paul isn't here anymore. This is our hour, our day, and our time. We must spread the good news so that every person can experience:

### Spiritual eyes that understand God.

1. Have you ever explained something to someone and then said, "Do you see what I'm saying?" What do we mean? "Do you understand?"
2. God's Word does the same thing. Let me give you an example. Matthew 13:15
  - It is clear from the context that Jesus is saying, "These folks don't get it. They are spiritually blind." The word "understand" means "to put together."
  - But did you know that **every** person in his or her natural state is spiritually blind? Ephesians 4:18, 20
  - Nobody comes out of the womb with a spiritual understanding of God and Jesus Christ.
  - None of my boys came out of the womb saying, "Let me tell you about Jesus, my Savior." They came out yelling and screaming bloody murder.
3. How do we overcome our spiritual blindness? Spiritual blindness is lifted when you hear the message of Christ, learn of Christ, and then place your faith in what He has done for you. Acts 26:18

- Notice the verse says that Christ sent Paul out with the message of Christ *"To open their eyes..."* The key is at the end of the verse, *"...by faith that is in me."*
  - Your faith must rest in Christ, and Christ alone. He alone died for your sins and rose from the dead. Only through Christ can you be forgiven and reconciled to God.
  - But **first** you must admit your need. **Illustration:** When Christ walked the earth, He never healed a blind person that did not first admit his need and cry out to Him for help.
4. It is a turning point in your life when you admit that you are a sinner, admit you are spiritually blind, and admit that you need Jesus in your heart and life.
  5. When you call upon Him, the darkness and blindness is lifted, and you now have spiritual eyes to understand God. Light comes into your soul and spirit, which brings me to my next point and a key part of the core message we have been given to share with this world. Every person can experience:

### **Spiritual light to see God's plan.**

1. Paul was sent out to take the message of Christ to people, and that message would *"turn them from darkness to light."*
2. We all know the benefits of physical light. It allows you to see where you are going. When you have spiritual light from God, you can clearly see what direction and path your life should be heading. You can see God's plan and purpose for your life.
3. Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world."* Jesus came to this earth so that you could have spiritual light, and see and understand God's plan and purpose for you.
  - God doesn't want you in darkness. John 1:4, 9
4. Satan is described as the *"the ruler of darkness."* He desires to keep you spiritually blind and spiritually in darkness. He does not want you to understand the good news of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4). This is why he hates churches that have a passion for missions.
  - How do you dispel Satan's darkness and receive spiritual light? Again, let's look at the words of Christ spoken to Paul in Acts 26:18. He said, *"...by faith that is in me."*
  - The moment you place your faith in Jesus Christ, the light of Jesus shines in your heart (2 Corinthians 4:6). You now have the light of knowledge. John 12:46
5. You will never understand God's plan for you until the light of Jesus is shining in your heart.

### **In Conclusion:**

1. What is CrossRoads all about? Here is what we are all about: We want people everywhere to know that they can have spiritual eyes that understand God, and spiritual light to see God's plan for mankind. This is why Missions is our heartbeat.

2. How do you receive these two precious gifts? It is very simple. It is all appropriated by faith in Jesus Christ. Ephesians 2:8-9
  - You can't earn them, you can't work for them, and you can't even be good enough or religious enough to receive them.
  - But when you call upon Jesus Christ, admit your need, and receive Him into your heart and life, your eyes are opened!
  - Light comes into your soul! You enter into a relationship with God Almighty.
3. Do you have spiritual eyes that understand God? Do you have the light of heaven in you? If not, why don't you make a decision for Jesus Christ today?