

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

EVERYONE BELIEVES IN SOMEONE OR SOMETHING	13
YOU CAN FIND GOD IN THIS BOOK	13
THE GREAT COMMISSION	14
CONSTRUCTION OF THIS BOOK	14

PART A: THE GOD OF THE BIBLE: DO YOU KNOW HIM?

1. GOD DOESN'T TRY TO PROVE HIS EXISTENCE

FAITH IN GOD'S REALITY IS NEEDED TO EXPERIENCE HIM	21
GOD'S REALITY IS EVIDENT IN HIS CREATION	21
GOD'S REALITY IS EVIDENT THROUGH SCIENCE	22
GOD'S REALITY IS EVIDENT IN CHANGED LIVES	23
DID JESUS REALLY EXIST, OR WAS HE A MYTH?	23

2. THE GREATNESS OF GOD

GOD IS SPIRIT AND HAS A SUPERNATURAL EXISTENCE	25
GOD'S NATURE AND GREATNESS	25
GOD EXISTS AS THE TRINITY (ONE GOD IN THREE PERSONS)	26
TRINITY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT	26
TRINITY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT	28

3. JEHOVAH (FATHER GOD)

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOD	29
GOD (JEHOVAH, FATHER GOD)	30
FATHER GOD	30
GOD ALMIGHTY	31
JEHOVAH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT	32
JEHOVAH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT	34

4. JESUS CHRIST: OLD TESTAMENT

JESUS IS GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT	37
HUNDREDS OF OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES	38
MATHEMATICAL PROBABILITY JESUS IS THE MESSIAH	40
OLD TESTAMENT APPEARANCES OF JESUS IN HUMAN FORM	40
OLD TESTAMENT MESSIAH OF ISRAEL	42

5. JESUS CHRIST: NEW TESTAMENT

NO CHRISTIANITY IF JESUS CHRIST IS NOT GOD	43
SON OF GOD AND SON OF MAN	44
SAVIOR AND LORD	45
THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST	47
JESUS SITS ON HIS THRONE	48
MEDIATOR OF THE NEW COVENANT	48
JESUS IS THE JUDGE	49
HE IS THE ALPHA AND OMEGA	50

6. HOLY SPIRIT: OLD TESTAMENT

HE IS GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT	53
SPIRIT'S DIVINE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD	53
SPIRIT OF LIFE IN CREATION	54
AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE	54
ACTIVITIES OF THE SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT	55

Did the Spirit Indwell Old Testament Believers?	56
7. HOLY SPIRIT: NEW TESTAMENT	59
He Is God in the New Testament	59
The Forgotten God	60
Why He's Important	60
The One Called Alongside	60
When Does He Indwell Believers?	62
Indwelling, Baptism, Anointing, and Filling	63
God's Seal and Guarantee	66
The Holy Spirit and Non-Believers	66
8. IMAGINE NEVER TALKING TO SOMEONE YOU LOVE	69
Knowing About and Knowing Personally	69
God Wants an Eternal Relationship with You	70
Anyone Can Communicate with God	71
Many Ways to Communicate with Him	72
Requests of God in Prayer	72
Your Prayers Matter	75
9. GOD COMMUNICATES IN INCREDIBLE WAYS	77
Prophecy about My Life (and It Includes You)	77
Jesus Christ Appears to My Mother in a Coma	79
The Holy Spirit Spoke in the Night	80
10. LIFE IS NOT RANDOM; GOD HAS A PLAN	83
There Is a Purpose for Your Life	83
I'm Going to Do What I Want!	84
God's Plan Always Fulfills His Purpose	84
God's Plan Is Like a Cross-Country Race	85
You Can't Be the Person You Are Today Without Your Past	86
PART B: CHANGE IS NEEDED IN YOUR LIFE	
11. THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT GOD'S LOVE	91
God Loves You Unconditionally	92
The Good News Proves God's Unconditional Love	93
Three Elements of the Good News	93
Jesus' Unconditional Love – I Must Love My Father, But I Couldn't	95
Some People Reject the Good News and God's Unconditional Love	96
12. EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE RESCUED	99
Do You Want to Be Rescued?	99
God's Living Word and People's Hearts	100
Rescued from What?	101
13. RESCUED: THE FATHER INTERVENED	105
How It Started	105
The Father God Spoke Audibly to Me	106
Sorrowful Repentance and Salvation	107
14. "BORN-AGAIN" IS MISUNDERSTOOD	109
Born-Again: What It Really Means	109
Born-Again into God's Eternal Family	110
A Biblical Worldview and Being Born-Again	111
Changes After Being Born-Again	112
15. GIFTED AND EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT	115

WHAT ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?	116
THE HUMAN BODY ANALOGY AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS	116
UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS	117
WHERE SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE IN THE BIBLE	117
DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS	118
HINDRANCES TO DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS	118
16. A NEW CREATION IN CHRIST	121
BELIEVERS HAVE TWO NATURES	121
THE OLD NATURE	122
THE NEW NATURE	123
A PERSONAL TESTIMONY	123
17. BE TRANSFORMED BY THE SPIRIT	127
HOLY SPIRIT CAN TRANSFORM THE HEART AND MIND	127
THE BODY GROWS OLD, BUT THE SOUL IS RENEWED	128
THE OLD NATURE MUST GO	128
THE NEW NATURE MUST MATURE	129
MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SHORT TIME ON EARTH	129
18. THE BATTLE FOR SPIRITUAL MATURITY	133
STRUGGLES ARE NECESSARY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH	133
IT WAS ALL I HAD, AND I DIDN'T TRUST GOD	134
SPIRITUAL MATURITY COMES FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT	135
SPIRITUAL MATURITY REQUIRES THE FATHER'S TRAINING	136
19. WHEN LOVE STOPS GROWING, IT STARTS DYING	139
SPIRITUAL GROWTH PRODUCES FRUIT	139
LOVE IS A FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT, BUT CAN IT DIE?	140
CAN A CHRISTIAN LOSE THEIR SALVATION?	141
20. ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO CONTROL YOU	145
DO THOUGHTS AFFECT SPIRITUAL GROWTH?	145
LET THE HOLY SPIRIT CONTROL YOUR MIND	145
JESUS, MY HEART IS YOURS (EXCEPT FOR THIS)	146
BABY CHRISTIANS AND SPIRITUAL MATURITY	147
21. LIFE IS WASTED WITHOUT GOD'S LOVE	151
"YOU MUST BE A HEATHEN!"	152
<i>Biblical Errors and Hypocrisy</i>	153
THE CULT GROUP: THEY CHOSE POISON OVER LOVE	154
<i>The Poisoning!</i>	155
PART C: DEVELOP NEW HABITS TO KNOW GOD	
22. KNOWING GOD THROUGH THE BIBLE	159
"IT'S JUST A BOOK, HARVEY!"	159
MOST READ BOOK IN THE WORLD.	160
THE HOLY SPIRIT WROTE THE BIBLE FOR YOU	160
READING SCRIPTURE	161
STUDYING SCRIPTURE	162
THERE ARE MYSTERIES IN THE BIBLE	163
MEDITATING ON SCRIPTURE	164
PRAYING SCRIPTURE	164
23. KNOWING GOD THROUGH THE BIBLE: APPLYING SCRIPTURE	167
LEARNING IS EASIER WITH A STUDY BIBLE	168
MY USE OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCE LIBRARIES	168

24. KNOWING AND DOING GOD’S WILL	171
YOU WILL EXPERIENCE GOD’S REALITY MORE IN YOUR LIFE	171
BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT KNOWING AND DOING GOD’S WILL	171
SHE BELIEVED ALL HER THOUGHTS WERE FROM GOD	172
GOD OFTEN USES MULTIPLE WAYS TO REVEAL HIS WILL	172
THE LORD PREPARED HIM TO GUIDE ME	173
EACH PERSON OF GOD MAY COMMUNICATE WITH YOU	173
25. KNOW AND DO GOD’S WILL: GUIDANCE	175
EXTERNAL MEANS OF GUIDANCE	175
<i>Counsel of Others</i>	175
<i>Circumstances</i>	175
INTERNAL MEANS OF GUIDANCE	175
<i>Your Will</i>	175
<i>Your Emotions</i>	176
<i>Your Mind</i>	176
<i>Your Conscience</i>	176
<i>Your Spirit</i>	177
GUIDANCE FROM THE BIBLE	177
HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDED ME	178
26. KNOWING GOD THROUGH CHRISTIAN PRACTICES	179
SPIRITUAL PRACTICES WITH GOD	180
<i>Meditation</i>	180
<i>Prayer</i>	181
<i>Fasting</i>	181
<i>Study</i>	182
SPIRITUAL PRACTICES WITH OTHER BELIEVERS	182
<i>Submission</i>	182
<i>Confession</i>	183
<i>Service</i>	184
<i>Worship</i>	184
YOU MUST PRACTICE THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES	185
PART D: GOD IS SUPERNATURAL AND STILL DOES MIRACLES	
27. THE NATURAL WORLD	189
THE CREATION STORY IN BRIEF	189
GOD CREATED EVERYTHING OUT OF NOTHING	189
THE BIBLE, SCIENCE, AND THE NATURAL WORLD	190
28. THE SUPERNATURAL WORLD	193
GOD IS SUPERNATURAL, AND ALL HE DOES IS SUPERNATURAL	193
GOD SUPERNATURALLY RESPONDS TO PRAYER	194
GOD’S ANGELS ARE SUPERNATURAL	195
29. DIFFERENT KINDS OF MIRACLES	199
JESUS DID MANY MIRACLES	199
LINDA’S CAR PUSHED OFF TRACK FROM ONCOMING TRAIN	200
WHITE-OUT AND THE HOLY SPIRIT’S WARNING	201
FRED WAS HEALED FROM A FEAR OF DEATH	201
HEALING AND FAITH	202
ANOINTING, LAYING ON HANDS, PRAYER, AND HEALINGS	203
YES, GOD STILL DOES MIRACLES TODAY	204
30. THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS ARE REAL	205
WHO IS THE DEVIL?	206
DEMON POSSESSED TEENAGER AND WORSHIP OF THE DEVIL	207

DEMONS BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD	208
JESUS CHRIST IS VICTORIOUS OVER DEATH AND THE DEVIL	209
31. PARANORMAL SIGHTINGS – NOT “GHOSTS” OF DEAD PEOPLE	211
PEOPLE CAN’T TALK TO THE DEAD	211
STORIES OF HAUNTED LOCATIONS	212
THE WHITE WITCH – SHE WANTED TO HELP	213
MASTERS OF DISGUISE	214
32. BE PREPARED: KNOW THE TRUTH	215
THE BATTLEGROUND FOR TRUTH IS THE MIND AND HEART	215
TEST THE SPIRITS TO DISCERN TRUTH	215
DEMONS CAN DECEIVE NON-BELIEVERS	217
DEMONS CAN DECEIVE BELIEVERS	218
THE BATTLE FOR TRUTH IS NOT WITH PEOPLE	219
BE PREPARED: WEAR THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD	219
33. BELIEVERS AT WAR	223
SPIRITUAL WARFARE IN A HOTEL ROOM	223
BIBLE VERSES ABOUT SPIRITUAL WARFARE TACTICS	224
DEMONS MUST SUBMIT TO JESUS’ AUTHORITY	226
GREATER IS HE WHO IS WITHIN YOU	227
PART E: WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS REALLY LIKE	
34. CHRIST’S CHURCH MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN YOU THINK	231
JESUS CHRIST’S PURPOSE FOR HIS CHURCH	231
THE BIRTH OF CHRIST’S CHURCH AND CHRISTIANITY	232
WHAT A HEALTHY CHRISTIAN CHURCH DOES	233
PASTORS AND LEADERS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH	234
HOW TO FIND A HEALTHY CHRISTIAN CHURCH	236
35. TALE OF THREE CHURCHES	237
CHURCH ONE: THE LORD BUILT A SPIRITUALLY ALIVE CHURCH	237
CHOIR OF ANGELS SING WITH US	237
SYMPTOMS OF A SPIRITUALLY UNHEALTHY CHURCH	239
CHURCH TWO: SOME LEADERS MAY NOT LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE YOU EXPECT	240
CHURCH THREE: SOME LEADERS MAY REJECT GOD’S PLAN	240
36. CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: SALVATION	243
CATEGORIZING THE BELIEFS	243
SIN, REBELLION: EVERYONE NEEDS SALVATION	243
BELIEFS ABOUT SALVATION	245
<i>Belief #1: Salvation (Rescued!)</i>	245
<i>Belief #2: Death of Jesus Christ</i>	246
<i>Belief #3: Resurrection of Jesus Christ</i>	247
37. CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: TRINITY	249
<i>Belief #4: Trinity</i>	249
<i>Belief #5: God (Father God, Jehovah)</i>	250
<i>Belief #6: Jesus Christ (Savior and Lord)</i>	251
<i>Belief #7: Holy Spirit (Spirit of God and Christ)</i>	252
38. CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: CHRIST’S CHURCH	255
<i>Belief #8: People</i>	255
<i>Belief #9: The Church</i>	256
<i>Belief #10: The Bible</i>	256
39. CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: ETERNITY	259

Belief #11: Creation	259
Belief #12: Eternity	261
Belief #13: Eternal Judgment	261
ETERNAL LIFE WITH GOD	264
PART F: YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE AND EVERYTHING TO GAIN	
40. A GLIMPSE OF HEAVEN	267
IS HEAVEN REAL?	267
HEAVEN IS INDESCRIBABLE	269
JESUS GIVES MARK A VISION OF HEAVEN	270
MYTHS ABOUT HEAVEN	276
41. PRAYER TO KNOW GOD	279
THE GOOD NEWS (THE GOSPEL)	280
YOUR PRAYER TO KNOW GOD	281
42. RESOURCES FOR NEW AND MATURING BELIEVERS	283
NOW THAT YOU BELONG TO HIM	283
DIVERSITY OF CHRISTIAN MATERIALS	283
DAILY DEVOTIONAL	284
DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES	285
PARTICIPATE IN A LOCAL CHURCH	285
PARTICIPATE IN A SMALL GROUP	285
43. IN THE END, IT'S UP TO YOU	287
THREE THINGS LAST FOREVER	287
WHAT IS FAITH?	287
WHAT IS HOPE?	288
WHAT IS LOVE?	289
LIFE IS NOT EASY!	290
BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT HOW YOU LIVE	291
EVERYONE BELIEVES IN SOMEONE OR SOMETHING	292
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE AND EVERYTHING TO GAIN	292
MORE STORIES TO STRENGTHEN YOUR TRUST IN GOD	293
MY FIRST HEALTH BREAKDOWN	293
FIRST MIRACULOUS HEALING	294
"I LOVE YOU AS MUCH AS I LOVE EVERYONE"	294
SUMO WRESTLING AND GOD'S PROTECTION	295
THE MOUSE AND PEEPING TOM	296
SECOND MIRACULOUS HEALING	297
THE ESSENTIALS: WHO IS THIS GOD?	301
DOES THE GOD OF THE BIBLE EXIST?	301
<i>There Is Only One God</i>	301
<i>God's Nature and Greatness</i>	301
<i>God Exists as the Trinity (ONE God in Three Persons)</i>	301
GOD (JEHOVAH, FATHER GOD)	302
JESUS CHRIST (SON OF GOD)	302
<i>No Christianity If Jesus Christ Is Not God</i>	302
HOLY SPIRIT (SPIRIT OF GOD)	303
<i>The One Called Alongside</i>	303
<i>He's God's Supernatural Power on Earth</i>	303
GLOSSARY	305
FURTHER STUDY	319
INDEX	321