Knowing Your God

A. The course content

1. The Incomprehensibility of God
2. God's Omniscience
3. The Almighty Power of God
4. The Presence of the LORD
5. The Glory of the LORD
6. God's Jealousy
7. The LORD's Will and His Holiness
8. The Perfect God
9. The Goodness of the LORD
10. False Perceptions of God

B. What we will try to learn

1. How to gauge the size of God
2. What being almighty means
3. How God can be present in multiple ways
4. How God can be both glorious jealous
5. How God is holy, good, and perfect

C. How to prepare for each session

1. Read the material assigned.
2. Answer the study questions.
3. Consider the issues that are being raised by the readings.

1. The Incomprehensibility of God

1. How is God being “shrunken” in American society?

2. What does it mean that “God is infinite”?

3. How could God not be “indivisible”?

4. Why is the Trinity a mystery?

5. What is the relationship among the members of the Trinity with each other?

6. What does it mean that God is immutable?

7. What is the difference between “immutable” and “unchangeable”?

8. How does the incarnation of Christ challenge our knowledge of the Godhead?

2. God's Omniscience

1. How are human knowledge, intelligence, and wisdom related?

2. Give three examples of the inherent knowledge of God?

3. What is God's operational knowledge?

4. In what ways does God know men's hearts?

5. Why is God's knowledge of men's circumstances important?

6. Why is God's wisdom greater than that of man? (Give a technical answer.)

7. Why is God's omniscience comforting?

3. The Almighty Power of God

1. What is the intrinsic power of God?

2. What four high-level things did God need to create?

3. What is the extent of God's power in nature?

4. What is the degree of God's control of nature? Explain.

5. How do God's miracles differ from the laws of nature?

6. For what does God use His spiritual power?

7. Describe God's judicial power.

4. The Presence of the LORD

1. Describe the heavenly presence of the LORD.

2. Describe the holy presence of the LORD.

3. Describe the majestic presence of the LORD.

4. Describe the sustaining presence of the LORD.

5. Describe the physical presence of the LORD.

6. Describe the ecclesiastical presence of the LORD.

7. Describe the indwelling presence of the LORD.

8. Describe the sacramental presence of the LORD.

5. The Glory of the LORD

1. How did the glory of the LORD appear to Abram?

2. How did the glory of the LORD appear to Jacob?

3. Why did the Israelites quickly lose their awe of the glory of the LORD at Mount Sinai?

4. Where did the glory of the LORD reside in the land of Israel?

5. How did the glory of the LORD appear to Isaiah?

6. How did the glory of the LORD appear to Ezekiel?

7. What were three instances of the appearance of the glory of the LORD in Jesus' life?

8. What three things did the glory of the LORD fill so that no one could enter?

6. God's Jealousy

1. What is the relationship between "jealousy" and "envy"?

2. Why is it acceptable for God to be jealous?

3. Why is the LORD jealous of His deity?

4. What does the LORD's jealousy of His name cover?

5. Why is the LORD jealous of His Law even though it cannot save?

6. Why is the LORD's jealousy of His Gospel so strong?

7. What does the LORD's jealousy of His election preclude?

8. Why is the LORD jealous of His "chosen people" even though many of them will not be saved?

7. The LORD's Will and His Holiness

1. What is the nature of God's sovereign will?

2. How does God's perceptive will differ from His sovereign will?

3. What is included in God's revealed will?

4. What is included in God's hidden will?

5. What is God's antecedent will?

6. What is the relationship between God's antecedent and consequent will?

7. What does God being "holy" mean?

8. How does God's holiness relate to His will?

8. The Perfect God

1. What is perfection?

2. Why can't God's perfection prove His existence?

3. How is God perfect in action?

4. List some of God's perfect requirements.

5. Why did God demand perfect sacrifices?

6. What is the difference between God's holiness and perfection?

7. Why is God's justice perfect?

8. Explain how God is both truthful and faithful.

9. The Goodness of the LORD

1. Why is the God's love not like human love?

2. Why is God's love unfathomable?

3. What is God's benevolence?

4. To whom does God's benevolence apply?

5. What is God's grace?

6. How can God's grace be lost?

7. How does God's mercy differ from His other "goodness" attributes?

8. What are three categories of people to whom God is merciful?

10. False Perceptions of God

1. What is an “antithesis”?

2. What would be the implication if God overlooked “little sins”?

3. How do we know that God really cares about what we do?

4. What is wrong with the statement “God helps those who help themselves”?

5. Why isn’t God obligated to His followers?

6. Why can’t we bargain with God?

7. Can God speak directly to people? Explain your answer.

8. How do we know that God is not bluffing about sending people to hell?