

learning  
how to receive  
God's love

“You can’t have true Christianity based on decisions and not on affections.”

- John Piper; *The Dangerous Duty of Delight*

There is no fear in love. But perfect **love drives out fear**, because fear has to do with punishment.

1 John 4:18 (NIV)

But knowledge puffs up while **love builds up**.

1 Corinthians 8:1 (NIV)

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—**that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.**

Ephesians 3:17-19 (NIV)

Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.

Revelation 2:4 (NIV)



As a dog returns to its vomit, so fools repeat their folly.

Proverbs 26:11 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup>You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup>Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. <sup>5</sup>You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Psalms 139:1-12 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. <sup>7</sup>Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? <sup>8</sup>If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. <sup>9</sup>If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, <sup>10</sup>even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Psalm 139:1-12 (NIV)

<sup>11</sup>If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,” <sup>12</sup>even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Psalm 139:1-12 (NIV)



A C C E P T A N C E



## Step 1: Accept that God is Totally Aware

<sup>1</sup>**You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.**

<sup>2</sup>**You know when** I sit and when I rise; **you perceive** my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup>**You discern** my going out and my lying down; **you are familiar with all my ways.**

Psalm 139:1-3 (NIV)

# Step 1: Accept that God is Totally Aware

<sup>46</sup>Then an argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. <sup>47</sup>But Jesus, **knowing the thoughts of their hearts**, had a little child stand beside Him.

Luke 9:46-47 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup>**Knowing their thoughts**, Jesus said, “Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?”

Matthew 9:4 (NIV)



## Step 2: Accept that God's Awareness Doesn't Stop His Hand

<sup>5</sup>You hem me in behind and before, and **you lay  
your hand upon me.**

Psalm 139:5 (NIV)

## Step 2: Accept that God's Awareness Doesn't Stop His Hand

The touch of God is a touch of **Intimacy** before a touch of Purpose.

## **Step 3: Accept that Running Doesn't Work**

<sup>8</sup>If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. <sup>9</sup>If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, <sup>10</sup>**even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.**

Psalm 139: 8-10 (NIV)