

Early in my life most churches that I knew did not have regular preachers. When one was invited in, once or twice a year, the emphasis seemed to be on the steps for becoming a Christian. That was important, but what Jesus expected of us after we were Christians was left to local Bible study. Later the emphasis changed to how we should treat each other. Both are important.

The problem is not new. Jesus told the Jewish leaders, “You search the scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness to me; yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.” John 5:39-40. Later, when they would not believe that He is God’s son, Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father; if you knew me, you would know my Father also.” John 8:19b.

If we **really knew** Jesus we would go to Him for our salvation. If we **really knew** Him we would know what he wants us to do as Christians. If we really loved Him we would keep His commandments.

Your author hopes the following lessons on *Knowing Jesus* will help us know OUR SAVIOR and continue to love and follow Him.

I want to thank several people for helping me with this project. My main helper was Ty Kalisz, the minister of my home congregation. He would proofread my lessons and send me a list of corrections. If there are still errors, I can almost assure you that I goofed in making the correction. If I knew a verse and didn’t remember where to find it, he could always give me the book, chapter and verse.

I also taught these lessons in a men’s class in the assisted living home where I now live. There were several preachers and teachers in the class who made good suggestions. My oldest son used the lessons in a class where he lives. He converted them all to PowerPoint and added several thoughts. I used some of his suggestions.

When I tried to do a lesson in Chronological Order, such as the one on John the Baptist, I used F. LaGard Smith’s ordering. I appreciate his scholarship very much.

To some, the last lesson seems to be out of place. I call it The Credits Lesson. My wife always wanted to see all the credits after a movie, etc. I think of it as a review of the previous lessons. As a professor for nearly forty years, I always reviewed before the final. My prayer is that these lessons will help you really KNOW and LOVE Our SAVIOR.