



STUDY GUIDE

May 9, 2021

Message Series:

It's Time

Message Title:

How to Know God

Teaching Pastor:

Brian Hughes

### Warm-up/Icebreaker:

- Would you rather time travel to the past, or the future in terms of seeing the world?
- If you were given a chance to turn back time in your life's timeline and go back to any phase to see or talk to yourself which age and why?

### Pray:

Dear Lord, we enter into Your presence, trusting You are with us. We desire to be in Your will and need help learning what it means to redeem our time. Give us a spirit of wisdom that we may know You better so we are good stewards of all the precious time that You give us each and every day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### Get Started:

"When church does what church is supposed to do, it's not the thing you do when you don't have anything better to do. It's the thing you allocated time to first. Why? Most people will think you are crazy for showing up to church, much less for prioritizing church. But you should. You really should, and I'll tell you why. The steady rhythm of being in church every week gives us the basis to know God in a way that we cannot alone. By ourselves, we only get a partial picture, but together, that picture is complete." - Pastor Brian Hughes

### Read Hebrews 10:25.

- Have you come back to physical church yet? If so, describe your first time back. Do you go with regularity? If not, do you feel a desire to come back to a physical campus?
- Do you feel you allocate time to church first? How does where it is ranked affect how you live your life?

### Watch and Discuss Video: (running time approx.12 min.)

"You get to decide. You get to prioritize and shift and adjust and disburse your time as you choose. And yet...most of us don't. Choose, that is. We react. Or we allow our time to be...commandeered. We let others impose their time valuations on our calendar allocations until we wonder where it all went. Like losing your keys and searching the entire house for them, we think: What happened to all that time? I don't know. It was right here just a minute ago. But it doesn't have to be this way. God gave you YOUR time precisely so that YOU could choose how to spend it. More accurately, God gave you your time to steward well." -Pastor Brian Hughes

- Where are you on the calendar spectrum (from barely looking at it to living by it)? Do you think you steward your time well?
- In what way(s) would you like to implement change? How could you do this?

### **Read Matthew 6:33.**

- How does your faith affect your calendar, if at all?

### **Reflect and Commit:**

"Church isn't simply about inspiration, it is about action. It should move us to turn, change, alter, adjust. This can apply to the way we think or the way we treat others or the way we relate to God or our behavior. But church together should, at least in part, begin to answer the question that those people asked that day, "what should we do." If you're asking that today, here's the answer: Make a commitment to be here. Don't make church the backup plan, make it the immovable priority that draws you to the all-powerful God and his unstoppable movement that you are a part of right now. We've found our reason for gathering, and it centers around the truth that Jesus is alive and through Him we will bear much fruit." - Pastor Brian Hughes

### **Four Critical Components that Commitment to Church Will Give You:**

1. **Inspiration (that we CAN)**
2. **Connection (to the ONE who CAN)**
3. **Conviction (that we should)**
4. **Instruction (for what to do now)**

- Is there an area you would like to tap into more? How could you do this?

### **Read Ephesians 1:15-23.**

- Not only does God initiate a relationship with us, but He also wants us to grow in our knowledge of Him. Describe a recent circumstance, conversation, or experience that caused you to know Him better – more personally and intimately.

### **Read John 17:1-5, 25-26**

#### **Pray:**

Dear Lord, help us to become rooted and grounded in who You are. Help us to not be satisfied in just knowing *about You*...help us to *really desire to know You*. Our relationship with you will help us to see the world how You see it so we humbly ask for wisdom in how we live our lives. Thank you for giving us this time to meet together and encourage one another to make the most of every opportunity. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.