

Part 1: Every Ship Has a Captain

BIG IDEA

Discover the many aspects of who God is and His relationship to us as our Captain.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 3:18 (NIV) – *“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”*

OPTIONAL VIDEO RESOURCE

In this optional video, Pastor Tony Evans inspires us to desire knowing God in a greater way.

- View on RightNow Media* - [The Power of Knowing God: \(1\) Do You Know Him](#)

ICEBREAKER

1. Which captain would you choose to lead your expedition (*Captain Jack Sparrow, Captain Kirk, Captain Nemo, Captain America, Captain Hook, Captain Crunch, other*)?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

KNOWING OUR CAPTAIN

2. Which of these roles of God do you relate to? Why?

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|---|--|
| a. CREATOR – Isaiah 42:5 | g. TEACHER – Matthew 4:23 |
| b. FATHER – Isaiah 64:8 ; Luke 11:11-13 | h. COMFORTER – 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 |
| c. KING – 1 Timothy 1:17 | i. HEALER – Matthew 8:16-17 |
| d. SAVIOUR – Luke 19:10 | j. LEADER – Mark 3:7-10 |
| e. GUIDE – John 16:13 | k. LOVER OF MY SOUL – Psalm 23:1-3 |
| f. FRIEND – John 15:12-15 | |

* If you do not yet have a login for RightNow Media, please use this link to join under our Church of the Rock subscription: [Rightnow Media Login Request](#)

- 3. We already interact with teachers, leaders, parents, friends, and counsellors in our everyday lives. Take a moment to think about how you relate to those different roles. What challenges do you have relating to these roles? How might these challenges affect your relationship with God?**

Mark 4:35-41 (NIV) – *That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.”*³⁶ *Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him.*³⁷ *A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped.*³⁸ *Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”*

³⁹ *He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.*

⁴⁰ *He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”*

⁴¹ *They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”*

- 4. God is always inviting us to deepen our understanding of who He is.** In Mark 4:35-41 (above) we notice that in verse 38 the disciples called Jesus “teacher” but are then challenged to a fuller understanding of who He is (verse 41). **How did God first reveal himself to you? How have you grown in your understanding of Him since then?**

TRUSTING OUR CAPTAIN

- 5. Think of a challenging situation in your life where knowing God’s character gave you strength. Describe what new characteristic was revealed to you and how it affected your situation.**

6. **There are many ways we get our eyes off our Captain (e.g., fear, trusting our own abilities, discouragement, bad habits, culture, popular opinion, past disappointments). In what ways can you get your eyes back on Jesus?**

7. **Following our Captain requires knowing and trusting Him. This can be nurtured through intentional discipline of thought and action. Which of these would be helpful to you right now to help you grow in knowing and trusting God?**

- a. **Confession** – [1 John 1:9](#)
- b. **Focus on God** – [Psalm 46:10](#)
- c. **Worship** – [Psalm 103:1-3](#)
- d. **Prayer** – [James 5:13-18](#)
- e. **Prayer of thanksgiving** – [Psalm 136:1-9](#)
- f. **Come back to your community/group** – [Hebrews 10:25](#)
- g. **Mentorship** – [2 Timothy 2:2](#)

ACTIVATION - LISTENING PRAYER

“God, what aspect of Yourself would You like to reveal to me? How can I grow in that understanding?”

THIS WEEK

This week be mindful of where God might be revealing more of Himself to you in your everyday life (e.g. reading Scripture, worship, etc.).