

# Sunday Leftovers

## **Sermon Title: Who Needs God – The God of Jesus**

**What's this message about** – How can we know God? How do we know who God is and what He wants us to do? You probably have heard many different descriptions and formulas for discovering who God is, but today we propose a very simple way we can know the God of Christianity: "Father, Spirit, Love."

When you hear the word "father" what comes to mind? For many that term may relate to a person who was not perfect, someone who might have struggled to show us the love and care we needed. Thinking of God as our father could possibly make us hesitant to seek Him because the image we have of a father is imperfect. To know God as father we need to know the one who claimed He knew Him best, Jesus. When John wrote in his Gospel that Jesus stated, "If you know me, you know the father" he was telling us that Jesus was/is the earthly image of God. His personality, His passions, and His treatment of people were a direct reflection of who God the father is. John, who many believe wrote the most personal and detailed description Jesus, provides us with key insights to who God the Father is.

John does not stop there, though. Knowing Jesus, and better understanding God, through Jesus, John writes about God being "Spirit" and "love." This gives us an even deeper description of the God we seek: a creative, powerful, loving God who seeks to have a personal relationship with each of us.

### **Questions for discussion:**

- *What do you think was the main point of Mike's message?*
- *What do you think Jesus meant by, "If you know me, you know the Father?"*
- *How does knowing God as "father, spirit, and love" help us to better understand the God we serve?*
- *How can we apply this knowledge of who God is to our lives?*

### **Do something about it:**

Over the next few weeks set aside some time to read the Gospel of John. Use this time as an opportunity to get a personal glimpse into Jesus' character. Pay close attention to what He considered important and how He interacted with people. Use this as a guide to help you redefine "father" and to help you better understand who the God you serve is.

**Digging deeper:** John 1:1-4,14,18; John 14:7-11; John 4:1-24; 1 John 4:7,8