KNOWING JESUS

By Brooks A. Harris

"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." John 17:3

Do you know Jesus or just know about Him? As many people, I have gone to church most of my life, attended many worship services on Sunday's and learned much about the Bible in Sunday school. I knew much about Jesus, but unfortunately I didn't really know Him.

About 12 years ago I began studying evidence for the reality of God and the reliability of His word – the Holy Bible. I quickly developed a strong belief in God and a passion to learn more and teach about His word and His creation.

Over the years though I have learned that what is more important than knowing <u>about</u> God is <u>knowing</u> God. The difference is head-knowledge versus a heart-felt relationship. I realize now that God has always known me, protected me and guided me in many ways. God is a good Father who dearly loves His children and I believe God's desire for us is for us to develop a strong loving relationship with Him.

I now grow stronger in my relationship with Jesus every day by communicating with Him. Through prayer I praise him, thank Him and ask for His continued presence and guidance in every aspect of my life. By reading and listening to His written word, Jesus reveals to me what He wants me to know about Himself and how He wants me to live so I may enjoy a wonderful, loving relationship with Him forever.

Dear Jesus, my Lord and Savior, I praise You for who You are and for everything You have done. Thank you for loving me and teaching me how to love You and how to love others. I appreciate Your guidance in my life and I look forward to Your daily presence in my life, now and throughout eternity. In Your name I pray. Amen.