**Title: God is Personal**

**Series: Believe**

**Speaker: Robert Beasley**

**Key Idea:**

**I believe God is involved in and cares about my daily life.**

*“What we need to know is not just that God exists, but that there is a God right here in the thick of our day-by-day lives who may not be writing messages about himself in the stars but who is trying to get messages through our blindness as we move around down here in the fragrant muck and misery and marvel of the world.”*

 *-*Frederick Buechner

**Can God?**

 *“God is not hurried along in the Time-stream of this universe any more than an author is hurried along in the time of his own novel. He has infinite attention to spare for each one of us.*

 *You are as much alone with Him as if you were the only being He had ever created.”*

 *C.S. Lewis*

**Does God?**

 *And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.*

 *(Genesis 1:3)*

 “*God is with you [Abraham] in everything you do*.”

 “*God was with [Ishmael] as he grew up*.”

***“****I am with you [Jacob] and will watch over you wherever you go.”*

 “*The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered.”*

***“****You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ”*

 *(Genesis 50:20)*

 *“He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing.”*

 *(Deuteronomy 10:18)*

 *“The eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.”*

 *(2 Chronicles 16:9)*

 ***“****I will put my dwelling place among you.* *I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.”*

 *(Leviticus 26:11-12)*

 *“Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle….*

 *In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out; but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out—until the day it lifted.”*

 *(Exodus 40:34-37)*

 *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

 *(John 1:14)*

***“****Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care.*

*And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”*

 *(Matthew 10:29-31)*

*HOW INTRICATE ARE YOU?*

* *Your body has 100 trillion (100,000,000,000,000) cells – each cell contains a copy of your entire genetic make-up.*
* *There are three billion letters in your Genome.*
* *Written out, your Genome would stretch 5,592 miles.*
* *It would fill 5,000 books.*

 *“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”*

 *(Psalm 139:13, 17)*

*“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home.”*

  *(Luke 15:4-6)*

 *“Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.”*

 *(Hebrews 2:14, 15)*

 ***“****I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth…You know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*

 *Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”*

 *(John 14)*

 ***“****I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith…that you may be filled to the full with all the fullness of God”*

 *(Ephesians 3:16,17)*

**How God?**

1. Open The Door!

“*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”*

  *(Revelation 3:20)*

*“The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

  *(Philippians 4: 6-7)*

***“The more we get what we call ‘ourselves’ out of the way and let Him take us over, the more truly ourselves we become.***

***It is when I turn to Christ, when I give myself up to His Personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own. Until you have given up your self to Him you will not have a real self.”***

 -C.S. Lewis

1. **Listen To Him!**

**“*This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”***

 ***(Mark 9:7)***

*“I have come that they may have life (Zoe), and have it to the full.*

 *I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal (Zoe) life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.”*

 *(John 10)*

*“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To the one who conquers…I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.’*

 *(Revelation 2:17)*