

*For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.*

*Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)*

## God Knows Us

It's been said, "With less to see, we see more clearly." There is a simple beauty about deciduous trees in January. The fall and winter seasons have eliminated all the leaves, and one sees only the bare skeleton of the tree. However, often visible are empty nests that once sheltered a family of birds, or a squirrel that has wintered-over in a thick patch of leaves. Otherwise, the tree that once was covered in foliage is bare.

But on closer inspection, we see the real makeup of the tree. You see what is important—what is really holding it up—the importance of the root structure. Yes, the leaves add their own beauty, but in time, they are gone.

We can compare the tree ... bare of leaves, to the way God sees us. Others may see only what is visible—such as expensive cars, elaborate homes, fine clothing, or a luxurious lifestyle. But God sees our heart. He knows who we are and what we are thinking. God is not impressed with outward appearances. We cannot hide from God. He knows our secret thoughts. He knows what we are thinking.

Jeremiah 12:3 says, "Yet you know me, O Lord; you see me and test my thoughts about you" (NIV). Psalm 139:1 reads, "You have searched me, LORD, and you know me" (NIV).

How can your life be an example of a Christian lifestyle? How can you lead others in your church to put their faith and trust in God?

*Carolyn Tomlin lives in Jackson, Tennessee, and writes for the Christian magazine market.*

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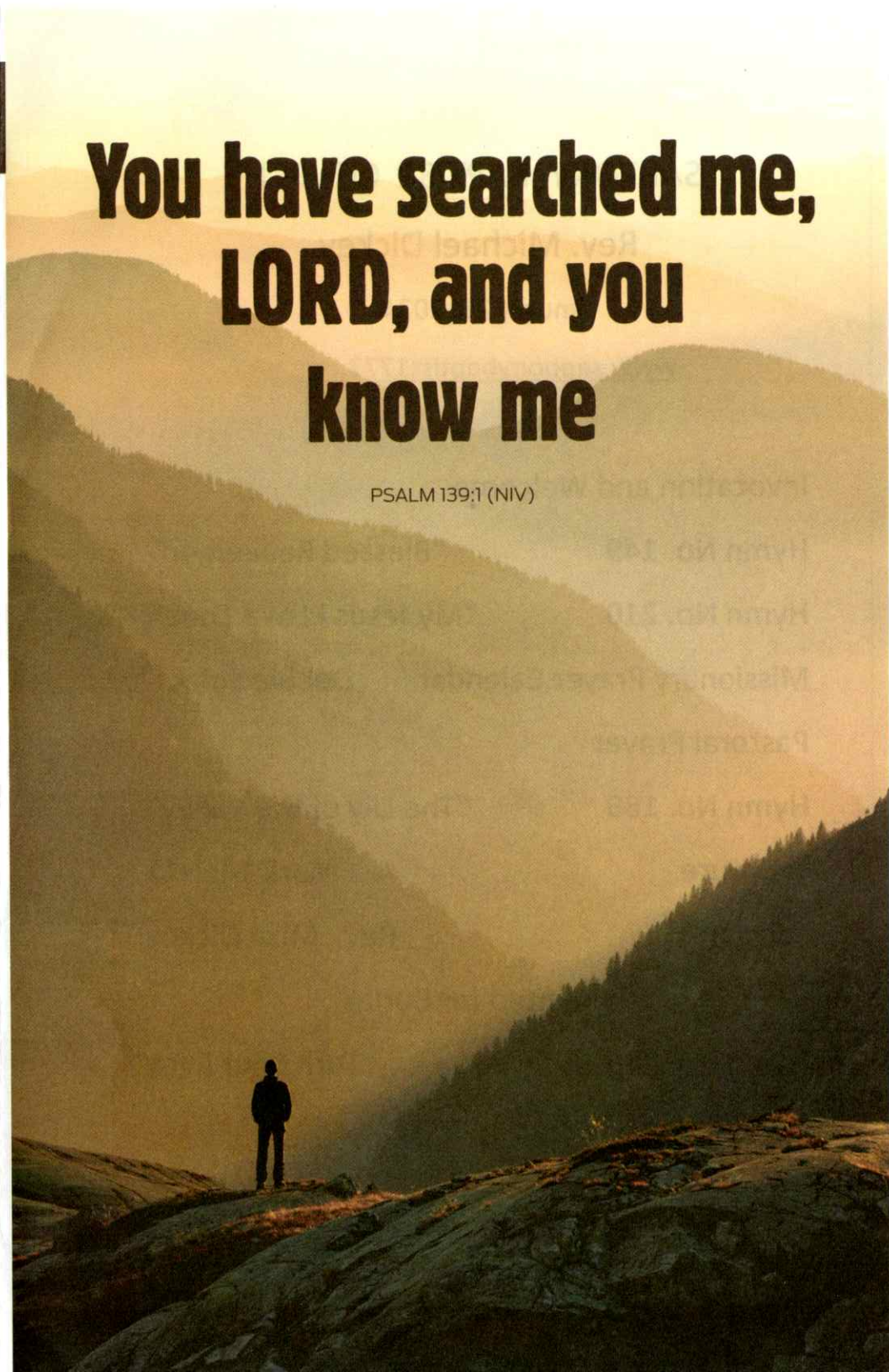
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# You have searched me, LORD, and you know me

PSALM 139:1 (NIV)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SAPPONY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Michael Dickey

January 28, 2024

[www.sapponybaptist1773.org](http://www.sapponybaptist1773.org)

#### Invocation and Welcome

Hymn No. 149 "Blessed Redeemer"

Hymn No. 210 "My Jesus I Love Thee"

Missionary Prayer Calendar Debbie Spiers

#### Pastoral Prayer

Hymn No. 189 "The Lily of the Valley"

Scripture Mark 14:1-11

Sermon Rev. Mike Dickey

"Anointed for Burial"

Hymn No. 320 "Turn Your Eyes"

#### Benediction

Be in prayer for our sick and shut-ins as they are unable to be here with us.

To subscribe to our text alerts, text "JOIN" to 804-430-6282. We send out prayer requests and reminders.

Be sure to check out our Daily Devotional on our website: [sapponybaptist1773.org](http://sapponybaptist1773.org)

Missed a sermon? Or just want to hear it again? Our past sermons are available on our website, Facebook, Youtube, and your favorite podcast app.

Deacons will meet Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. at 7pm at the Parsonage.

PRE-READ FOR NEXT WEEK: Mark 14:12-26