



# Organized Chaos

*Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I stand up; you understand my thoughts from far away. You observe my travels and my rest; you are aware of all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue, you know all about it, Lord. You have encircled me; you have placed your hand on me. This wondrous knowledge is beyond me. It is lofty; I am unable to reach it. ~ Psalm 139:1-6*


## Discover the Context Psalm 139

 What difficulty are you facing today? In regard to this difficulty how does Psalm 139:1-6 produce these effects in your life?

- ▶ Confidence
- ▶ Encouragement to pray
- ▶ Trust
- ▶ Comfort
- ▶ Encouragement to godliness
- ▶ Peace

 “If one thing lies at the basis of the whole biblical teaching about God, it is that God knows all things.”

~ J. Gresham Machen  
(1881-1937)

 Do you think it is scary that God knows you completely? Why or why not? How could this also be a comfort? Look up 1 Corinthians 10:13.

Camp can seem like organized chaos. One can wonder who is really in control—the needs of campers never end, a moment of solitude is nowhere to be found, serving and constant giving is difficult. Sometimes you may think that all you need is a pat on the back or a word of encouragement from a friend who has experienced what you’re facing.

God meets this need in Psalm 139 far better than any friend. The first six verses especially reveal that God is intimately acquainted with you and knows the smallest details of your life and every need that you face.

The psalmist says that God searches you and knows you. He knows when you rise up and when you sit down. There is no detail that is too small for him to be concerned about or that he might overlook. He knows when you are tired, when the campers are driving you crazy, or when the dishes are stacked to the ceiling. He knows what is happening at home and what will happen after you leave camp. The events of this day are not a surprise to him. He is not overwhelmed or caught off guard by anything.

Basically he knows everything.

He already knows all the thoughts that you will have today and the words that will come out of your mouth. The scope of his knowledge should encourage you that he is sufficient to strengthen you to accomplish his will.

When the organized chaos no longer seems organized or bearable, remember that God has not forgotten you. He sees your troubles, your challenges, and even your sinful responses. Yet he has placed his hand upon you to enable you to serve for the good of the campers and the glory of God. He has encircled you to bring his glory out of your chaos. (RDJ)