



HILL TOP

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KNOW GOD

02

FIND FREEDOM

03

DISCOVER YOUR
PURPOSE

04

MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

GROWTH TRACK

“Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”

John 17:3 (NKJV)

GOD DESIGNED US FOR RELATIONSHIP

first with Him and then with others.

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39

1. Spiritual maturity is impossible without **KNOWING GOD**.
2. Your relationship with God began when you **RECEIVED CHRIST**.

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God..." John 1:12 (NKJV)

*"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10:9*

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Jesus defines eternal life: *"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." John 17:3*

3. Eternal life is NOT just _____ God.
4. According to Jesus, eternal life is _____ Him.

"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules." Matthew 15:8–9

That word, "know," used in John 17:3 is the Greek word "ginosko". It is used here to describe an active relationship between the one who knows, and the person known. It implies to know intimately by experience.

5. God desires _____.
6. We will never outgrow our ability to _____ more deeply.

"I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ." Philippians 3:8

"That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death..." Philippians 3:10

7. We grow in knowing God as we _____.

Paul prayed that you would "have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:18-19

THE CHARACTER AND NATURE OF GOD

3 Important Attributes of God

1. God is Love

“Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” 1 John 4:7-8

Love is a gift based upon who God is. Love is not a reward based upon what we have done or will ever do.

2. God is Light

“This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all.” 1 John 1:5

God's light represents His righteousness and goodness. Darkness is a contrast or opposite of light which signifies evil and sin.

3. God is Life

“Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.” Genesis 2:7

He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need.
Acts 17:25

EXPERIENCING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

1. God speaks and we _____ His _____.

Jesus said: “My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me.” John 10:27

2. Every believer has _____ God's _____

*“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him...”
John 6:44*

WAYS GOD SPEAKS

Jesus said, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

1. Through _____

"The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone." 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (LB)

2. Through _____.

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams." Acts 2:17

3. Through _____.

"This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words." 1 Corinthians 2:13

4. Through _____.

"But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort." 1 Corinthians 14:3

5. Through _____.

(See examples in Numbers 22:21-39, Daniel 5:5, Psalm 115:3)

SOME WAYS WE HEAR

God speaks to us Spirit to spirit.

*“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will **GUIDE YOU** into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; **HE WILL SPEAK** only what he hears, and **HE WILL TELL YOU** what is yet to come.” John 16:13*

1. Through _____.

“While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, ‘Simon, three men are looking for you.’” Acts 10:19

2. Through _____.

“He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners.” Acts 10:11

3. Through _____.

“Now when he [Moses] was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren...” Acts 7:23

TESTING WHAT YOU HEAR

The Apostle Paul said the Berean Jews were of “noble character” because “they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.” Acts 17:11

- Does it _____ with scripture?
- Does it _____ with the character and nature of God?

RECEIVING THE MOST FROM GOD'S WORD

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17(NLT)

1. I must **ACCEPT** its authority.

We believe that the Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant.

I must _____ God has given to me.

*"The earth is filled with your love, Lord; teach me your decrees."
Psalm 119:64*

• I must _____ to God's Word with action.
"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22

2. I must **ABSORB** its truths.

• By _____ God's Word.
"Faith comes by hearing the word of God." Romans 10:17

• By _____ with God's Word.
"Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and keep them deep within your heart." Proverbs 7:2-3 (LB)

By _____ on God's Word.

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success " Joshua 1:8-9

• By _____ it to my life.
*"Once you know these things you will be blessed if you do them."
John 13:17*

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22

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TALKING WITH GOD

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17(NLT)

Jesus exemplified a personal relationship with God through prayer that gave Him great strength. Every person who has ever been effective in service for God has developed this habit. The only way to be a healthy Christian is to spend time with God daily through prayer.

In my daily prayer time, I am:

_____ devotion to God.
"(Hezekiah) was successful, because everything he did ... he did in a spirit of complete devotion to his God." 2 Chronicles 31:21 (GN)

_____ direction from God.
"Show me the path where I should go, O Lord; point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me." Psalm 25:4-5 (LB)

_____ in my relationship with God.
"Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." John 17:25-26

Prayer involves _____ and _____ to God.

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

"Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him." Psalm 91:14-15

You can know and have relationship with the three distinct persons of the Trinity.

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” 2 Corinthians 13:14

1. FATHER

“I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.” 2 Corinthians 6:18

2. JESUS THE SON

“I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.” John 15:15

3. HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit is our _____ and _____.

“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” John 14:26

- He _____ us with _____.

“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit...Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”

1 Corinthians 12:4, 7-11

- He _____ us.

“On one occasion, while He [Jesus] was eating with them, He gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:4-5, 8

Keep on growing!

The Apostle Peter ends his letter to the churches this way: “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever!” 2 Peter 3:18

LIVING FROM AN ORPHAN MINDSET VS. LIVING FROM SONSHIP

Orphan Spirit/Heart

Insecurity/Jealousy

Jealous of other people's success

Serves God to earn love

Medicates loneliness

Always in competition

Identity from material,
appearance, and activities,
other people's emotions

Sonship

Love/Acceptance

Celebrates/Committed

Serves from love

Basks in His presence

Always blessing others

Affirmation comes from the Father