

Diagnostic Tool: Four Dimensions of Knowing God

This diagnostic tool is designed to help individuals reflect on the depth and balance of their knowledge of God across four dimensions:

1. **Informational** — Knowing truth about God
2. **Experiential** — Knowing God through life experience
3. **Revelational** — Seeing God through spiritual illumination
4. **Relational** — Walking closely with God daily

Use this as a personal reflection exercise, discipleship guide, small group discussion, or spiritual formation assessment.

The Four Dimensions of Knowing God

Dimension	Core Focus	Key Question
Informational	Understanding God's truth	<i>What do I know about God?</i>
Experiential	Encountering God in life	<i>How has God shaped me through experience?</i>
Revelational	Spiritual illumination	<i>What has God opened my eyes to see?</i>
Relational	Daily communion with God	<i>How closely do I walk with God?</i>

Instructions

Rate each statement from:

- **1 = Rarely true of me**
- **2 = Sometimes true**
- **3 = Often true**

- **4 = Consistently true**
 - **5 = Deeply true of my life**
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1. Informational Knowledge of God

Understanding truths, teachings, and doctrines about God through Scripture.

Diagnostic Statements

- I regularly study Scripture to know who God is.
- I understand key biblical truths about God's character.
- I can explain foundational Christian doctrines clearly.
- My understanding of God is shaped more by Scripture than by culture or emotions.
- I desire to grow in theological understanding and biblical wisdom.
- I recognize the importance of sound doctrine in spiritual growth.
- I can distinguish biblical truth from false teaching.
- What I know about God influences how I live.

Reflection Questions

- Do I pursue truth or merely inspiration?
- Is my knowledge of Scripture transforming my life?
- Am I growing in wisdom as well as information?

Warning Signs of Imbalance

- Knowing facts without transformation
 - Pride in knowledge
 - Intellectual faith without intimacy with God
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2. Experiential Knowledge of God

Knowing God through lived experiences, trials, suffering, obedience, and answered prayer.

Diagnostic Statements

- Difficult seasons have deepened my trust in God.
- I can identify ways God has worked through suffering in my life.
- My faith has grown through personal encounters with God's faithfulness.
- I regularly recognize answered prayers.
- Obedience to God has produced spiritual growth in me.
- I depend on God more during hardship than on myself.
- My experiences with God have changed my character.
- I can testify to God's sustaining grace in difficult times.

Reflection Questions

- How has suffering shaped my understanding of God?
- Do I merely survive trials, or grow through them?
- What experiences have most transformed my faith?

Warning Signs of Imbalance

- Chasing emotional experiences
- Defining truth only by feelings
- Neglecting Scripture for personal impressions

3. Revelational Knowledge of God

Spiritual illumination where God opens the eyes of the heart to perceive His glory and truth.

Diagnostic Statements

- Scripture often becomes personally alive and deeply convicting to me.
- I have experienced moments where God suddenly made truth clear.
- I increasingly recognize spiritual blind spots in my life.
- My understanding of God goes beyond intellectual agreement.
- I sense growing awareness of God's holiness, beauty, and glory.
- The Holy Spirit gives me insight that transforms my perspective.
- I see connections in Scripture that deepen my worship of God.
- I am becoming more spiritually discerning.

Reflection Questions

- What truths has God recently illuminated to me?
- Where might spiritual blindness still exist in my life?
- Am I asking God to open the eyes of my heart?

Warning Signs of Imbalance

- Mistaking personal impressions for divine revelation
- Pride in "special insight"
- Neglecting biblical accountability

Key Biblical Passages

- Ephesians 1:17-18
- 2 Corinthians 4:6
- Luke 24:31-32
- Matthew 16:16-17

4. Relational Knowledge of God

Walking closely with God in ongoing communion, surrender, awareness, and dependence.

Diagnostic Statements

- I regularly spend time with God in prayer and communion.
- I am becoming more aware of God's presence in daily life.
- My decisions are increasingly surrendered to God's will.
- I desire intimacy with God more than religious performance.
- I rely on the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance.
- My love for God is growing deeper over time.
- I respond quickly when God convicts me.
- My relationship with God shapes my identity and priorities.

Reflection Questions

- Am I cultivating intimacy with God or merely activity for God?
- What competes for closeness with God in my life?
- Is my relationship with God marked by surrender and trust?

Warning Signs of Imbalance

- Religious activity without intimacy
- Inconsistent prayer life
- Seeking God only in crisis

Scoring & Interpretation

32–40 (Strong)

This dimension is actively shaping your spiritual life. Continue growing in humility and dependence on God.

24–31 (Growing)

Healthy signs are present, but there is room for deeper maturity and consistency.

16–23 (Developing)

Growth is needed in this area. Ask God to strengthen this dimension of knowing Him.

8–15 (Weak)

This area may be underdeveloped or neglected and needs intentional attention.

Final Reflection

A healthy knowledge of God integrates all four dimensions:

- **Informational** knowledge grounds us in truth.
- **Experiential** knowledge deepens faith through life.
- **Revelational** knowledge opens our spiritual eyes.
- **Relational** knowledge draws us into intimacy with God.

True spiritual maturity develops when truth is understood, experienced, revealed by the Spirit, and lived out in relationship with God.