

Session 3 – Guide

EDIFY: Shape Your Life for Good

How to Know God for Yourself



This guide provides the key questions, protocols, quotes and further study recommendations to help deepen your understanding and application of the session's content.

Setting the Stage

On the Infinite Nature of Knowledge

Ty Gibson (June 14, 2023)

Let's engage in an intellectual exercise that begins with asking this question:

How much is there to know?

Well, first of all, it is within the nature of the knower, the knowing, and the knowable, that the realm of knowledge is necessarily infinite and, therefore, can always be more fully known and yet never fully known by any finite knower.

The knower is in a constant state of change so that the knower always comes to know whatever they know with new knowing.

Additionally, the knower only ever knows anything in relation to other knowers who are always generating new data to be known, so that all individual knowing occurs communally. Knowledge is fundamentally relational.

It is evident, then, that knowledge is not, and never can be, a fixed sum total of information, but rather is a dynamically expanding reality in which each new action of each free agent adds new information to the exponentially growing realm of knowledge. That which may be known is a ceaselessly receding vanishing point on a horizon to which we can eternally approach but to which we can never catch up.

So, then, if the relationship between each individual knower, all other knowers, and the knowable, is of such a nature that the realm of knowledge is infinitely expansive, the following must be true:

There is no limit to our potential for intellectual growth, emotional development, and relational bliss. Our eternal life in fellowship with God and one another will forever generate new levels of ecstasy and awe. And that's an eternal life worth living.

In short, we will never be bored, that's for sure.

Key Questions

1. If the realm of knowledge is infinite and never fully knowable, how can anyone know God exists?

"The most rational thing you can do with your intellect is to believe in Jesus." Ty Gibson

2. If God is love, why would he leave any room for doubt in Him?

"For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse." Romans 1:20

3. How can we differentiate between merely knowing about God and truly knowing God on a personal level?

"We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God" John 6:69

4. In what ways can we be more open to the witness of the Spirit in our daily lives?

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." Romans 8:15-16

Practical Protocol

Live into the self-disclosure of God's Love for us in the following areas:

1. In the Word

- What does it look like to read scripture:
 - through the lens of God's love for you?
 - as a son and daughter, rather than a slave?
 - from a posture of freedom rather than obligation?

2. In Nature

- How can we explore nature:
 - with renewed awe and wonder?
 - as a form of worship?
 - as a way of discovering the nature and personality of God?

3. In Community

- In what ways can we participate in communities:
 - that direct us toward a deeper knowledge of God?
 - that practice love as the highest form of knowing?



Key Quotes for Reflection

"We read the Bible as a child of God, not as a slave of God."

"To love God is to know God and to know God is to live forever."

"Knowing God is what takes place when we open ourselves to the available, ubiquitous, inescapable revelation, the self-disclosure of God."

"I believe that she loves me and I live into that. I not only behave as though I love her, which is true, I behave as though she loves me."

"The moment God reveals himself to me personally and in the light of his love for me, I love him back. The moment that I say yes to his love, which is to love him back, now I know."

"Eternal life equals knowing God, and knowing God equals loving God. So, eternal life is to know God and to know God is to love Him."

"Help us to not lose track of who we are in you and to change those diapers, wash those dishes, mow those lawns, go to that job, and pay those bills with your spirit constantly testifying in us that we are your sons and daughters."

Further Study

- Steps to Christ, Chapter 12: What to Do with Doubt
 - [Read Online](#)
 - [Watch David Asscherick's Chapter Discussion](#)
- John 17
- 1 John 1
- Romans 6-8
- [An Endless Falling in Love](#) by Ty Gibson