



Do you want to know God better? Do you truly know Him? Or do you just know *about* Him? And how *much* do you know about God—the REAL God? Many people have a lot of wrong ideas about Him. But who does *God* say that He is? God wants to be known in truth (Jn 4:23-24).

While it is true that there's a lot of mystery surrounding God, there are many things God has revealed about who He is and how He works in His Word. God is not hiding! He *wants* to be known, my friends. He wants us to have a deep vibrant personal relationship with Him, not just a superficial one.

But we need to do our part.

In Proverbs 2 it tells us that if we cry out for knowledge and understanding of God; if we seek after it like we do hidden treasure, then we will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and find the knowledge of God (vv 1-5).

I want to help you find Him with this tool.

I first discovered this idea many years ago. My pastor suggested going through the alphabet during our devotional times with the Lord. I found it quite enlightening and effective. It stimulated me to think more about the Lord throughout the day.

As time progressed, I continued to use this approach in a variety of ways. I found it especially fun and valuable to use with a friend and in speaking engagements. Plus, it was extremely useful in the middle of the night during emotional meltdowns. This emotional yoyo needs something like this to help her refocus on God.

I am so excited to be able to share this fun tool with you because I know it will:

- Help you to focus on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of your faith (Heb 12:2).
- Stimulate your God-given imagination.
- Cause you to ponder more deeply about who God is.
- Encourage you to get into God's Word more and apply it to your life.
- Help you not to be overcome by negative emotions.
- Draw you closer to your Maker.
- Increase your awareness of God's presence.

This simple tool is a great way to engage your kids and help them see that being a Christian can be lots of fun!

I promise you that this *works*. Not just because I said so or because of my experiences, but because *God* says so. His Word is true. Anytime we focus on Him and His character we will not be disappointed.

“Then you will know that I am the LORD; those who hope in me will not be disappointed.” (Is 49:23)

God's ABC's

In learning to read, we start out with the ABC's. So why not begin there in learning more about our God? Afterall, Jesus said:

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.
(Rev 22:13)

Alpha and Omega are the letters A to Z in the Greek alphabet.

The Method

Take a letter of the alphabet and think of several aspects about God and/or about your relationship with Him beginning with that letter. There are no rules here except that it cannot be contrary to the Bible. Use your imagination.

I'll get you started:

A. Almighty, All-knowing, has Affection toward us—we are the Apple of His eye
B. Beautiful, Big, His way is Best, Bought us, we Belong to Him
G. Good, Great, Gracious, Gentle, Glorious, Generous Giver

See the Appendix for a template you can print off with the entire alphabet.

Cautions and Helpful Tips

Make sure you are lining up with Scripture.

If you're not sure that the stated aspect is in agreement with God's Word, go to the Bible to see what God says about it. If doing this activity with your child and they blurt out something questionable, use it as a teaching moment. Get out your smart phone and check it out on the spot. Better yet, have them do it! Biblegateway.com and Biblehub.com are two good sites.

Apply

After you have finished the alphabet or done a few letters, stop and think about one of those qualities a little bit deeper. Discuss it if you are doing it with someone. If that truth is a fact, what difference would it make in your life?

For example, you could ask these types of questions:

If this aspect is true:

- ❖ Will this help me to worry less, have less fear; trust God, believe God?
- ❖ Will this give me comfort or security; fill my need for love, significance, value, or life's basic necessities?
- ❖ How can this truth help me to make the right choices?
- ❖ In light of this what will be my response: worship, obedience, gratitude, love, surrender, pray more, service...?

As you ponder how you might apply a truth to your life, see if you can also think of or find some supporting Scriptures. You might even want to respond back with a prayer to God—thanking and praising Him for that revealed truth about who He is.

Application is so important because head knowledge alone isn't enough to make a difference in your life. You need to put those facts into use right where you are living in the here and now—in *this moment*. The purpose of this exercise is not only to help you know God better in your head, but also experientially. Through experience God will prove to you that it (a specific truth) is indeed true. Then that head knowledge will become heart knowledge. It'll become a part of who you are and will affect the way you act. We always act on what we believe is true.

Don't be overly concerned

If you (or others) had difficulty with this exercise, it could be that you've never tried thinking about God like this before, or you have limited knowledge about God and His Word. But I promise you that the more you use your noggin the easier it'll get.

If you feel ashamed or guilty about your lack of knowledge, don't let it keep you away from utilizing this tool to draw closer to your Maker! Instead, use those feelings to change. Guilt can be a powerful motivator.

Besides, you probably know more than you realize. I'm sure you're familiar with John 3:16...

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.

If you put on your thinking cap you can easily see in this verse that God is:

- ❖ Lover of all people (the world)
- ❖ Giver
- ❖ His love is great because He gave sacrificially
- ❖ Wants us to live forever with Him
- ❖ Eternal
- ❖ Plus...

If you feel ignorant, the solution is to simply get into God's Word more. You can do this by attending church and Bible studies. But what will help you the most is to read the Bible *yourself*.

As you read, intentionally look for what it says about God and His qualities right within the passage you are reading. All Scripture is important, but some passages speak more blatantly about our wonderful God than others. The book of Psalms is a great place to start.

This isn't as hard as you may think as you saw above with John 3:16. Let the Holy Spirit guide you. He promises to lead you into all truth (Jn 16:13). And remember: God's not hiding! He wants to be known. See the Appendix for another example of how to do this.

Variations

- ❖ If you are doing this exercise with your kids or another person, take turns with each letter (i.e. first person does letter A, the second person does letter B, etc)
- ❖ Let everyone think of an aspect for each letter until you can't think of anymore, before you proceed to the next letter.
- ❖ If you can think of a verse to back up your claim, recite (or paraphrase) it.
- ❖ If you can think of a song that goes along with it, sing it.

- ❖ Thank God for this truth.
- ❖ Think or discuss why this truth(s) is so meaningful to you.
- ❖ Pray a prayer of thanksgiving to God for that truth.
- ❖ Print out the ABC template and let your child fill it in as part of an assignment.

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I pray you will use that wonderful imagination which God has given you! Let your mind go—only do so under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Pastor and Bible teacher, [Michael Youssef](#), calls it *sanctified imagination*.

You can use this tool anywhere, anytime—alone or with a friend. It's especially fun to do with kids to pass the time! So, the next time you are on a long drive and bored, or in the middle of the night struggling to keep your eyes on Jesus, TRY THIS. It really works! I guarantee it'll make you *and* your Savior smile.

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Check out our [website](#) to find more resources to help you know God better!



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Appendix

Finding qualities of God in a passage—example

Psalm 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from?

² My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

³ He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;

⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The Lord watches over you—the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷ The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;

⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Obvious qualities:

- Helper (v 2)
- Maker/Creator (v 2)
- Keeper (vv 4, 5)
- Never sleeps (v 3)
- Watches over us (vv 4, 5, 7 & 8)
- Protector (vv 3, 6 & 7)

Not readily apparent qualities:

- God is our only true source of help (vv 1-2)
- Caring—one who helps, watches, and protects is one who cares. (vv 1-8)
- Eternal (v 8 forevermore)
- Sees all, has wisdom and power to keep all harm from us (vv 3-8)
- Dependable—always watching and protecting us from harm (vv 7- 8)

Isaiah 40 is another great passage.

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.... I will be found by you,” declares the LORD. (Jer 29:13-14)

God's ABC's

- A. Amazing _____
- B. Bought us _____
- C. In Control _____
- D. Delights in me _____
- E. Everything to me _____
- F. Father _____
- G. Good _____
- H. Hates sin _____
- I. Indescribable _____
- J. Just _____
- K. Kind _____
- L. Longsuffering _____
- M. Merciful _____
- N. Nothing can separate me from His love _____
- O. Over-flowing _____
- P. Perfect _____
- Q. Quiets my heart _____
- R. Righteous _____
- S. Self-existent _____
- T. Transcendent _____
- U. Unchanging _____
- V. Values me _____
- W. Worthy of worship _____
- X. God never X's me out! _____
- Y. Jesus is the same Yesterday, today and tomorrow _____
- Z. Zealous _____