

Knowledge of God

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:13

Immanuel is God With Us. The truth that we can know Him by experience as well as by the Word is the wonderful truth. All five spiritual senses (seeing, tasting, smelling, feeling, and hearing) come together to reveal Jesus as a person. The revelation of Immanuel establishes His ever present nature and lets us know who He is.

We can know God intellectually, in our minds, and experientially, in our hearts and lives. Words used in the original languages of Scripture tell us this.

In Old Testament Hebrew the word **yadah** denotes an encounter with the five senses. We can encounter God with our senses in both the physical and supernatural worlds.

In New Testament Greek, **gnosko v.** (root word “to know”), refers to intellectual knowledge, but **epignosko v.** (“to know” is the intensive form of root, gnosko) refers to experiential knowing gained through our senses. Epignosis n. (“knowledge”) makes a very specific distinction between knowledge of the mind and what I call knowledge of the heart.

epignosis n., “experiential knowledge.” appears only 11’xs in the Scripture (NT). Therefore it is rare and used very specifically:

As they did not like to retain God in their **knowledge**, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting. (Romans 1:28) ---Can lose it

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the **knowledge** of Him. (Ephesians 1:17) ---revealed by the Holy Spirit

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the **knowledge** of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:13) ---a key to Christian maturity

I pray that your love may abound still more and more in **knowledge** and all discernment. (Philippians 1:9) ---a key to love abounding

We do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the **knowledge** of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Colossians 1:9–10) ---a key to obedience and therefore fruitfulness

That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to **the knowledge** of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ. (Colossians 2:2) --our goal, knowing both Father and Son

And have put on the new man who is renewed in **knowledge** according to the image of Him who created him. (Colossians 3:10) -- a key to renewal and putting on the new man

Always learning and never able to come to the **knowledge** of the truth. (2 Timothy 3:7) ---head knowledge vs. experiential knowledge.

For if we sin willfully after we have received the **knowledge** of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins. (Hebrews 10:26) --a key to obedience and truth

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the **knowledge** of Him who called us by glory and virtue. (2 Peter 1:2-3) ---a key to life and godliness

For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:8) ---a key to fruitfulness

***For **epignosis** I like to substitute the word “**encounter**” because it suggests knowing through the senses, i.e. experiential knowledge. In an encounter, I experience by seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, and tasting.

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