



To Know

Recap

My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world. [1 John 2:1-2](#)

Recap

Why would God **forgive** me?
Because He has made it His **contractual**
obligation (If we...then He...)

How can I **trust** this?
Look to the **cross** to see how serious He is about it
(He is the sacrifice that atones for our sins)

Recap

"Jesus Christ came not to condemn you but to save you, **knowing** your name, **knowing** all about you, **knowing** your weight right now, **knowing** your age, **knowing** what you do, **knowing** where you live, **knowing** what you ate for supper and what you will eat for breakfast, where you will sleep tonight, how much your clothing cost, who your parents were. He **knows** you individually as though there were not another person in the entire world. He died for you as certainly as if you had been the only lost one. He **knows the worst about you and is the One who loves you the most.**" [A.W. Tozer](#)

How do you know that what you know is true? That's epistemology, Dr. Peter Ellerton

How do you know what the weather will be like tomorrow? How do you know how old the Universe is? How do you know if you are thinking rationally? These and other questions of the "how do you know?" variety are the business of epistemology, **the area of philosophy concerned with understanding the nature of knowledge and belief.**

How do you know that what you know is true? That's epistemology, Dr. Peter Ellerton

Whatever the area in which we work, some people imagine that beliefs about the world are formed mechanically from straightforward reasoning, or that **they pop into existence** fully formed as a result of clear and distinct perceptions of the world. The sincerity of one's belief, the volume or frequency with which it is stated, or assurances to "believe me" should not be rationally persuasive by themselves.

Different Kinds of Knowing

Cognitive-information, data

Relational-emotional, personal

Encoded Knowledge-Encoded knowledge is knowledge that has been recorded in symbolic codes

***Metaphysical**-(derivative of a priori) reality outside of human sense perception, knowledge that is beyond human senses

Cognitive dissonance refers to a situation involving conflicting attitudes, beliefs or behaviours. This produces a feeling of mental discomfort leading to an alteration in one of the attitudes, beliefs or behaviours to reduce the discomfort and restore balance.

This can be one of the ways we **change** depending on our **stubbornness** factor

How do we **know** something?

How do we **prove** that knowledge?

And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. [1 John 2:3-6](#)

"By 90 A.D., enough time had elapsed for many of the things Paul spoke to have begun to occur. Apostasy was underway. There were many who were **untaught** and they provided fruitful ground for **false teachers** who had already departed from the faith. William Barclay, describing this' condition, states that "certain things had almost inevitably happened within the church." [Ray Stedman](#)

"...Many were now **second or even third generation** Christians. The thrill of the first days had, to some extent at least, passed away. In the first days of Christianity there was a glory and a splendour, but now Christianity had become **a thing of habit, `traditional, half-hearted, nominal.**' Men had grown used to it and something of the wonder was lost. John was, writing at a time when, for some at least, the first thrill was gone and the flame of devotion had died to a flicker" [RS](#)

And we can be sure that we **know** him if we **obey** his commandments.

How can we know God?

Oh, that we might know the Lord! Let us **press on** to know him. **He will respond** to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring [Hosea 6:3](#)

My heart has heard you say, "**Come and talk with me.**" And my heart responds, "Lord, I am coming." [Psalm 27:8](#)

And we can be sure that we **know** him if we **obey** his commandments.

"Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. **Only those who actually do the will** of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' But I will reply, '**I never knew you.** Get away from me, you who **break God's laws.**' [Matthew 7:21-23](#)

And we can be sure that we **know** him if we **obey** his commandments.

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 neighbour as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these **two commandments.** [Matthew 22:37-40](#)

God is the **primary**, the outflow is the secondary

If someone **claims**, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a **liar** and is not living in the truth

How do you **test** someone's claim of knowing someone?

The Gospel of Thomas, (gnostic gospel) appearing as the second story within the second codex (NHC 2.2), within the Nag Hammadi Codices discovery, is dated by papyri material found in the covers of the codex (dated receipts) to **c.348 CE.**

Those who say they live in God
should live their lives as Jesus did

And this is the way to have **eternal life**—to
know you, the only true God, and Jesus
Christ, the one you sent to earth. [John 17:3](#)

Those who say they live in God
should live their lives as Jesus did

We can say with confidence and a clear conscience
that we have **lived** with a God-given holiness and
sincerity in all our dealings. We have depended on
God's grace, not on our own human wisdom. That is
how we have conducted ourselves before the world,
and especially toward you [2 Corinthians 1:12](#)

Cognitive
Relational
Encoded **Jesus** Metaphysical

How do we **know** something?

We **live** as if that knowledge is true

We believe, and we know you are
the Holy One of God. [John 6:69](#)

How do we **prove** that knowledge?

The knowledge transforms us

Now that you know these things, God will
bless you for doing them. [John 13:17](#)

And this is the way to have eternal life—to **know** you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. [John 17:3](#)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7TH, 7PM.

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**Wednesday,
February 24th, 7pm**



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