

VIRTUES

2 Peter 1:5 “Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge.”

Of all the virtues, adding knowledge seems the easiest to understand. We'd simply say, read your Bible. Spend time studying your Bible and you'll get the knowledge. We can equate knowledge with information or facts. This is how our children are taught in Bible classes. Through songs and repeating things, they learn simple Bible facts. But, is that all there is to us?

2 Timothy 3:7 “Always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

1. What does one have to know to become a Christian?

2. The learning aspect doesn't stop at conversion

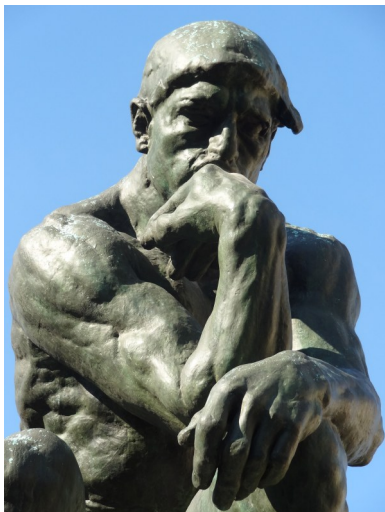
Mt 28:20 “teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Acts 2:42 “They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, and to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

Col 1:10 “so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God”

2 Pet 3:18 “but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...”

3. The core definition of a “pupil” is what?



The Powerful Advantage Knowledge Gives Us:

1. Greatest tool against _____
2. Creates strong _____ in the promises of the Lord (Acts 27:25; 2 Tim 1:12; 4:8)
3. Enables us to use the Bible _____ (2 Tim 2:15)
4. Leads to _____ living

A. Adding "Knowledge" involves more than just memorizing facts
- it involves _____

1 John 2

I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning (13, 14).

- **You know Him**

When you know someone, you know what they like. You know what they don't like. You know how to please that person.

Knowing God

1. God wants _____ and excellence (2:1-3)
2. God wants us to _____ Christ (6)
3. God wants us to _____ one another (9-11)
4. God wants us to be _____ (2:15-17, 29)
5. God does not want you to be _____ (2:18-21)

- Prov 9:10 the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding
- Prov 15:7 The lips of the wise spread knowledge...
- Prov 22:17 Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise, and apply your mind to my knowledge

B. Of the trees in the garden, God did not want man to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen 2:9, 17)
- man has knowledge of evil (Prov 6:18; 12:2; 23:17; Eph 5:12; Rom 16:19)

The Writer of "Know" - John

The word "know" is used:

- Gospel of John: 92x
- 1 John: 32x
- 2 John: 1x
- 3 John: 1x

How to Know God

1. The sacrifice of Cain; Nadab's strange fire; Jeroboam's temple in Dan; Ananias' lying: all those stories tell you what about God?
2. The father running to the prodigal; the casting of the demon out of the Gentile girl; the interrupting of the funeral procession to raise a dead young man; the feeding of the 5,000: all those stories tell you what about God?
3. Once one understands and knows God, he appreciates what God expects. He knows God (Phil 2:15; Micah 6:8)
 - What can you tell me about God?

It Helps to Know

1. What you know about God comes from the Bible
2. The makeup of your Bible
3. The Function, purpose and nature of the church
4. Fellow members of the church I belong to
5. How to find things in the Bible
6. Knowledge if I don't use it won't help me (Heb 10:26; 2 Pet 2:20)

Always bring a Bible to worship and classes
Always bring a pen
Always have some paper