



Concept of God Ministry Handout

1. Discover Your Functional View of God

Describe how you FEEL about your relationship with God.

How do you view God on a FEELING level—especially on a terrible day?

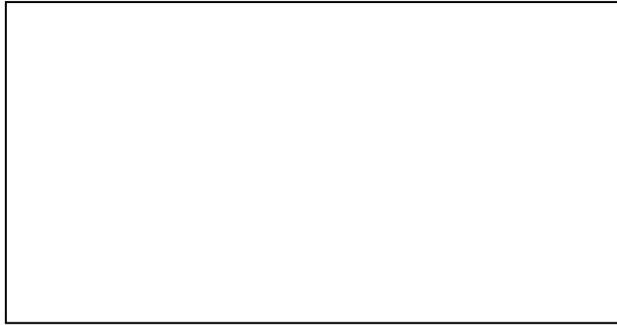
Check the one statement for each line that FEELS most true especially on a bad day.

Then go back and rate each (1 = rarely / 5 usually) indicating to what extent you feel that way.

GOD is...

		<u>God's Word (truth)</u>
1. _____ Distant	_____ Close	Psa 139:1-18
2. _____ Unapproachable	_____ Approachable	Heb 4:16
3. _____ Hard to talk to	_____ Easy to talk to	Col 1:9-11, Matt 11:28-30
4. _____ Harsh/Cold/Aloof	_____ Gentle/Warm	Matt 11:28-30
5. _____ Touchy/Irritable	_____ Patient/Kind	1 Cor 13:4-7
6. _____ Lack of confidence in me	_____ Has confidence in me	2 Cor 3:4-6
7. _____ Treats others better than me	_____ Has no favorites	Acts 10:34-35
8. _____ Doesn't listen to me	_____ Listens to me	Psa 34:15
9. _____ Concerned with my behavior	_____ Interested in me	Zech 2:8
10. _____ Upset/Disappointed in me	_____ Delighted/Pleased with me	Psa 18:19
11. _____ Too busy to bother with me	_____ Vitally interested in my life	Matt 10:30-32
12. _____ Detached and Unimportant	_____ Special and Important	Rom 8:15-17
13. _____ Doesn't care how I feel	_____ Cares a lot how I feelings	John 11:35
14. _____ Looks for faults/tears me down	_____ Builds up/encourages me	Eph 3:14-21
15. _____ Abandons me when I need Him	_____ There for me	Rom 8:35-39
16. _____ Can't depend on Him	_____ Can depend on Him	Psalms 138:8
17. _____ Slow to forgive	_____ Quick to forgive	1 John 2:12
18. _____ Reminds me of my past	_____ Doesn't keep record	Jer 31:34, 1 Cor 13:5
19. _____ Angry when He corrects me	_____ Loving in correction	Heb 12:7-8
20. _____ Frustrated at my mistakes	_____ Allows me to learn	Psa 86:15-17

Quickly, draw a simple picture of God. Include yourself in the picture.



For every item checked in the left-hand column, look up the verse(s) in the right-hand column.

are developed.

2. How distorted views of God

- We inherit misconceptions of God from our parents or grandparents.
- We all derive part of our concept of God from our parents; most significantly from the father.
- Our image of God is founded in large part by what we are taught as children in the church or our homes.
- We draw conclusions about God based on experiences we go through and events we see.
- Most of us, to some extent, derive our image of God from our self-image.

3. Why is the correct concept of God important? (Psalms 13:1-6)

- If our concept of God is not a Biblical view of God’s character, it is a lie.
- What we believe about God determines how we interact with God.
- God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. (John 4:24)
- Then He touched their eyes saying, “It shall be done to you according to your faith.” (Matt 9:29)
- So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief. (Heb 3:19)

4. Correcting your distorted concept of God

- Call lies what they are—lies!
- Write all the lies that you believe about God in the first set of lines below.
- Write the truth about God, as revealed in His word, on the second set of lines below.
- Prayer

Father God,

I now understand that I have a distorted view of You and Your character. I felt and thought of you as _____

_____.

I confess that what I believed about You is not true. I now choose to believe your testimony about Yourself, that you are (Scriptural truth about God) _____

_____.

Thank You for showing me that I had a distorted view of You. Jesus, take the pain and confusion associated with these lies unto Yourself and exchange it for Your peace. Jesus, by the work of the Holy Spirit, I invite You to replace the lies with the truth and continue to reveal Yourself and the Father to me. Thank You that Your abounding grace destroys every lying fortress, every speculation, and every lofty thought that raises itself up against the knowledge and character of God.

Amen!