



# Knowing God's Heart Toward Me

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Singles' Track | August 7, 2022

## I. What is God like?

A. He is always loving.

1) Love (*agape*)

1 John 4:7–8

Romans 5:8

Romans 8:35–39

2) Lovingkindness (*hesed*)

Jeremiah 31:3

B. He is compassionate.  
Psalm 103:13-14

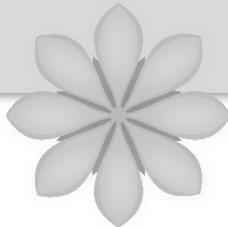
Lam 3:22, 32-33

Matthew 9:36

Isa 63:9

Heb. 4:15-16

There is comfort concerning infirmities, in that your very sins move Him to pity more than anger. . . . Christ takes part with you, and is so far from being provoked against you, as all His anger is turned upon your sin to ruin it; yes, His pity is increased the more towards you, even as the heart of a father is to a child that has some loathsome disease. (Thomas Goodwin, *The Heart of Christ*)



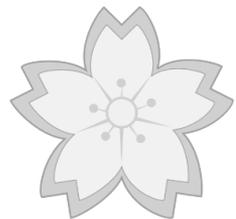
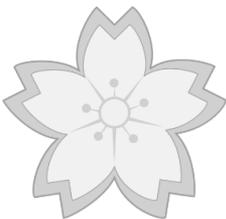
- C. He is always with me. (Psalm 46:1, Jer. 23:24, Psalm 139)
  
- D. He is all-powerful. (Eph. 1:19-20; 3:20; Luke 1:37)
  
- E. He is all-wise. (Matt. 6:8; Psalm 147:5; James 1:5)
  
- F. He is just. (Psalm 68:5; 82:3–4; Proverbs 15:25)
  
- G. He is merciful and forgiving. (Psalm 103:8; Psalm 145:8–9; 1 Kings 16:30; 21:28–29)

II. Is God really like this toward *me*?  
Exploring Naomi's story in the book of Ruth

A. Beginning

B. Middle

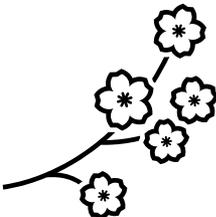
C. End



III. Knowing God's heart toward me, what should my response be?

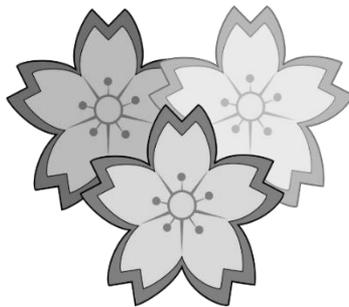
A. Communion

I do not believe that anyone will ever grow in grace who does not know something practically of the habit of communion with God. . . . We must seek to have personal intimacy with the Lord Jesus and to deal with Him as a man deals with a loving friend. We must realize what it is to turn to Him first in every need, to talk to Him about every difficulty, to consult with Him about every step, to spread before Him all our sorrows, to get Him to share in all our joys, to do everything as in His sight, and to go through every day leaning on Him and looking to Him. (J. C. Ryle, *Holiness*)



## B. Submission

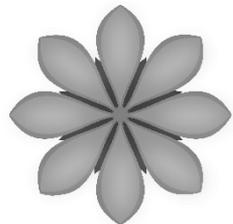
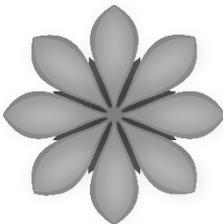
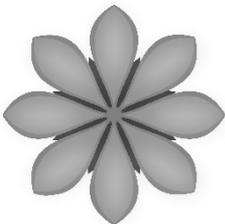
- 1) A recognition that God is the One who sovereignly chooses my path in life
- 2) Acceptance and even joy when that path is unexpected or hard to understand
- 3) Intentional obedience to clear commands



## C. Service

- 1) Amy Carmichael: Activated by *agape*
  
- 2) Lillas Trotter: Inspired by an image
  
- 3) Elisabeth Elliot: Motivated to a mission

The deepest things that I have learned in my own life have come from the deepest suffering. And out of the deepest waters and the hottest fires have come the deepest things I know about God.



4) Frances Ridley Havergal: Compelled to consecration

*Do what thou wilt! Yes, only do  
What seemeth good to Thee:  
Thou art so loving, wise, and true,  
It must be best for me.*

*Send what Thou wilt; or beating shower  
Soft dew, or brilliant sun;  
Alike in still and stormy hour,  
My Lord, Thy will be done.*

*Teach what Thou wilt, and make me learn  
Each lesson full and sweet,  
And deeper things of God discern  
While sitting at Thy feet.*

*Say what Thou wilt; and let each word  
My quick obedience win;  
Let loyalty and love be stirred  
To deeper glow within.*

*Give what Thou wilt; for then I know  
I shall be rich indeed;  
My King rejoices to bestow  
Supply for every need.*

*Take what Thou wilt, beloved Lord,  
For I have all in Thee!  
My own exceeding great reward,  
Thou, Thou Thyself shalt be!*

*~Frances Ridley Havergal*