



*The Fruit of the Spirit: The True Nature of God
New Member Guidebook*

*"What we think about God is the most important thought we'll ever have."
-Graham Cooke*

Our starting point for our life with God is in knowing His true, unchanging nature. Since God's primary purpose is for us to be made in His image (Genesis 1:26), it's vital that we don't just know about Him... but that we encounter Him in our everyday lives!

The Fruit of the Spirit is the nature of God. It's the foundation of understanding your identity in Christ. So, this is an excellent series to begin your Brilliant TV adventure.

When we embark on a trip, we often take a Guidebook with us. A Guidebook is not an itinerary; it's a reference. It gives options of where to eat, stay and explore...but the decisions are ours to make.

All of our teaching and resources at Brilliant offer you **choices and invitations**...because everything God does is rooted in freedom.

We encourage you to download and print out this Guidebook. We've created it to coach you through some of the new language and ideas you'll encounter as a New Member and the activations* that are attached to Episodes 2-14 in this series (if you choose to do them.)

Relax and enjoy these early months of exploration at Brilliant TV as much as God is enjoying them with you.

Take your time. Go at a pace that seems best to you and the Holy Spirit. God loves every interaction He has with you...as do we.

~ **Graham Cooke & Allison Bown**
Creative Partners / Brilliant TV

*Click on “**Show More**” under each video to find the PDF links for the Activations in Episodes 2-14.

PS) Learning in the Kingdom is different than the educational systems of the world. God asks questions differently than we’re used to. He asks **Questions for Exploration* ...** questions that are **relational catalysts** to discovering who God wants to be for you in this particular place or circumstance.

That’s a new experience for many people!

So before you dive into the activations in this series, we recommend watching this short 6 minute video on “How God Uses Questions.”

<https://www.brillianttv.com/making-the-most-of-brilliant-tv-1/season:1/videos/7>

Episode 1: The Power of Fruit

Listen to this Introduction to the series.

The Key questions in this episode are ones you will want to use time and again in your life with God... and in your Brilliant TV experience.

To begin with, let's just focus on the **first question** Graham asks in this episode.

Think of a difficult situation in your life where you're prone to worry, fear, frustration, anger or panic. Then consider:

#1 What aspect of the true nature of God (which Fruit of the Spirit) can I experience Him as in this situation?

Who He wants to be for you will always be the opposite of any negatives (Isaiah 61:1-4):

Examples:

If you're fearful... you have an encounter with Him as Perfect Love ahead.
(1 John 4:18)

If you're prone to worry... He is rubbing His hands together, knowing how great He is at being your Prince of Peace.

When you know the one aspect of His true nature that you want to focus on... **simply ask Him**. After all, it's His desire too!

Consider praying this Crafted Prayer each day (or write a better one!)

Father, Thank you that you are _____.
(fill in your desired Fruit. We'll use "kindness" for our example).

*Jesus, Thank you that you aren't just kind, You ARE Kindness itself,
In You is a beautiful encounter with Kindness.*

*Holy Spirit, Thank you for being my ever-present Teacher and Helper.
I look forward to beholding You as Kindness, receiving Your Kindness,
and becoming Kind towards myself and others.*

At the end of each day, take time to reflect.

Where did you encounter this aspect of His true nature? Make a few notes.

Very often, it's in our awareness and recognition of the simple moments in life that we realize just how ever-present God is.

Episode 2: What Will Your Expectancy Activate?

It's Okay to Listen More than Once

There's no expectation that you'll get everything in each episode the first time through. We recommend you listen more than once. Each time you do, you'll learn something new.

It's important to soak in the Truth just as we would soak in worship or devotional words.

This is the first episode in this series with PDF Activations that can be downloaded. Take a look at them (click on "Show More" under the video for the link.)

If this is something you'll enjoy... great. If not, maybe you'll just want to listen to the series first and do these later on. **That's okay!**

If you choose to do these Activations now, you may wish to listen several times before diving in.

Here's an encouraging excerpt Graham wrote to one of our members in "What the Cross Means for Me and You."

Sylvia: "I seem to grasp one moment and then lose it the next. [As I listen again and again,] I am noticing that it seems to be going deeper..."

Graham:

I always remember what a new rain was like in my days of ministry in Africa. Initially, the rain is going to bounce off the ground because it hasn't had any in a long time. You hope for a gentle first rain, so that as the ground softens, it can absorb more and more.

When we first hear new truth, it takes time to soak in... and God understands that.

We're unlearning old ways of perceiving and thinking and beginning to see and think about God, ourselves and our lives in a whole new way.

Continue to soak it all in....Soon, you'll find that you'll absorb more in less time and discover a growing capacity for deeper and deeper truth.

Episode 3: Gentleness is the Voice of the Lord

The Importance of HOW we Hear

Listen to Episode 3 on the gentle voice of the Lord.

The Truth of this episode is a powerful key in your Brilliant TV experience.

**Everything you hear from the Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit (and from us)
should be heard in the voice of gentleness.**

The activation that goes with this episode will help you recognize how you've learned to hear the tone of the Lord's voice.

While you will hear the tone of our voices with those of us on video, we want you to hear that same tone when we or one of the team are writing comments or emails.

**We're never frustrated.
You're never bothering us with your questions.
We love your learning because God loves your learning.**

We may hand some questions back to you and the Holy Spirit to work through together, because our primary responsibility is to be a catalyst to your relationship with Him.

We'll invite you to come up higher in your thinking at times, because we adore the real-life learning situations you're encountering.

But if you ever feel uncertain about our responses, just remember to hear everything through the voice of gentleness and **come back and listen to this episode.**

Let it be a continual source of encouragement and comfort!

Episode 4: A Fresh Lens for Self-Control

The Value of The Pause Button

This is one of our greatest discoveries at Brilliant TV: The Pause Button. When we wrote this episode, we had no idea that the language of...

**“The Pause Button”
would be life-changing for our members.**

Now, we refer to it all the time on BTV!

Some members told us that they almost skipped this episode because of previous perceptions about “self-control,” but now they’re glad they didn’t. Here’s an excerpt of member Ben’s comment:

What incredible insight into this amazing gift! For me, self control used to represent me having to remember to exercise strength and effort on my part... It was exhausting and frustrating.... until now.

...Now whenever I encounter a situation that feels even slightly out of control, or I feel out of my depth, I can feel the Holy Spirit providing a great big pause button...

...In this place of ... stillness I hear the Holy Spirit gently say "It's OK. Take all the time you need to discover who we want to be through you right now".

In this place of peace and rest, I am able to receive timely insight and wisdom specific to the situation I am in. This has provided such release and joy over my life.

What a great perspective! Because Ben posted his comment, it remains a continuing contribution to our community. We value your voice, so we hope you will comment and ask questions too!

As you listen to this episode and go through the Activation, pack your **Pause Button** with you on your Brilliant TV adventures!

Episode 5: Overwhelming Peace

Coming into Alignment

If you're doing the Episode 5 Activation PDF, you'll see the word "recalibration" and "realignment" used. This is how we view your process of development at Brilliant TV. It's an important key for New Members:

**When you see an upgrade needed in your life,
it's never an issue of something being "wrong" with you.**

**Something is out of alignment or missing in your experience of God
and He has every intention of providing it.**

Spiritual alignment is about:

- Seeing God's elevated perspective about ourselves and our lives in Christ
- Growing in partnership with the Holy Spirit
- Greater confidence and expectation of God's unchanging nature of goodness
- Increasing levels of rest and peace
- Primary focus on God's Truth, rather than what is situationally true
- Loving the learning and evidence of transformation

If you find yourself out of alignment, feeling weary, frustrated or uncertain about your process... ask God what He has for you instead, and then focus on that above all else.

What we focus on, we empower. For every place of growth, God has made provision for you in your experience of Him.

Be sure to use the same allotment of grace for yourself that He has for you in this process.

**Alignment isn't a goal to be accomplished.
It's a continuing, relational journey with God to be enjoyed.**

Episodes 6 - 13

We think you've got some good basics to get started... so either continue soak and listen, or take the additional step of exploring the Activations with each episode.

There's one final New Member portion of this Guidebook when you get to **Episode 14** and your Evidences of Transformation.

We highly recommend reading the **comments by other members** whenever you're watching BTV. It's where the viewing experience becomes a personalized training opportunity. Our previous responses may be just the next piece of wisdom you need.

Also, check out our "**Question and Response Collection**" on the **Forums**. There are several pages of member questions and our responses that can also be a valuable part of your training and growth.

LINK: <https://www.brillianttv.com/forums/question-response-collection>

We're delighted to be with you on this journey... and confident in who God will be for you in it.

Episode 14: Nothing Works Against Fruit

Evidences of Transformation

God's primary purpose is for us to be made in His image (Genesis 1:26). At Brilliant, rather than using tests or rating scales, we want to use the same measures that God does in assessing His primary purpose in our lives.

Growing up into the full image of Christ is not measured by the number of books you've read, courses completed, or teachings you've heard.

It's in our everyday life stories that are our **Evidences of Transformation** are found ...confirmations that we're actually becoming more like who we've been beholding (2 Corinthians 3:18).

It's the maturing process of:

- **Perceiving** God, yourself and your circumstances as He does.
- **Thinking** more with the Mind of Christ
- Using the same **language** that God does when He talks about us and others
- **Choosing to respond** to others the way He has responded to you.

In the "Show More" notes for this episode, you'll find a **PDF download of Evidences of Transformation***.

We encourage you to use Evidences of Transformation **with every Brilliant TV series...** and keep copies for future reference.

They will encourage you in the Lord and be reminded of just how much you've changed since you first started. You've got this...because He's got you!

Where do you go next? That's up to you. Here are some possibilities to consider:

- **"Story and Journey."** This series also comes with a unique New Member Guidebook with several perspectives not covered here.
- **"Flip the Switch"** is a short, 4 episode series that gives you a good overview of foundational Brilliant perspectives. Total viewing time: Less than 30 minutes.

- **“Life Questions”** Mentoring Series gives you excellent questions you’ll again and again in your relationship with God. Each session stands alone, so you can do some or all of the episodes.

**For more on Evidences of Transformation check out:*

1) *Making the Most of Brilliant TV, “How Do I Know if I’m Growing?”*
<https://www.brillianttv.com/making-the-most-of-brilliant-tv-1/season:1/videos/6>

2) *Resources for BTV Learning Forum board... “Evidences of Transformation.”*

This has a general Evidences of Transformation that you can use with any BTV series. It also has further resources about what we mean by “perceptions,” “mindsets” and “language.”

<https://www.brillianttv.com/forums/resources-for-btv-learning/29894-evidences-of-transformation>