

Pathwork on  
**Thinking, Feeling, Knowing God**

This quote from Pathwork Lecture 126 *Contact with the Life Force*, answers the question of a participant, "How should we think about God?" I find this a clear framework for how one's spiritual journey unfolds in general, and specifically how God fits into one's life. See also Pathwork Lecture 105, *Humanity's Relationship to God in Various Stages of Development*, which develops this topic in more detail.

45	<p>QUESTION: How should we think of God?</p> <p>ANSWER: Do not think of God as a person in human form. Think of a tremendous power, continuously creating life in a purposeful way. Look around and open your eyes. In all branches of science you find aspects of the universal intelligence and power. In all manifestations of nature you find it. In the very complex physical, mental, emotional organism of the human creature lies the proof of this intelligence and power. God is not a disciplinarian; God is beyond good or evil. People often cannot conceive of God, because they can think of God only in human terms. Human beings, before they can come to a wider understanding, have first to give up their concept of God as a small disciplinarian whom they want and fear and who should act as a substitute for a parent. They want such a God because they are too afraid of tackling life by themselves.</p>
46	<p>As I have pointed out again and again, before the true God-experience can occur, you all must learn to stand on your own feet, and perhaps shelve your search for a while. Do not declare "there is a God" due to false guilt and the misunderstanding of human relations, if you are not certain. Neither declare "there is not," because your outlook is blurred by your hopelessness and confusion about life and about yourself. At such a time, it is healthy to say, "I do not yet know," without guilt and without defiance. And as you find yourself -- and this is always how the path must start -- as you find your real, true self, the rest is given to you. It comes by itself. It is a natural understanding that comes when you learn what you need to know about yourself in order to live successfully. Finding God cannot be done by discussing theories on an intellectual level. Keep the problem shelved, my friends, keep yourselves open, but find yourselves first. This is all that matters. For then you will come into the truth from inside, from your personal experience, rather than accepting postulates or enigmas out of fear, obedience, wishful thinking, or the desire for dependency and reward, through rejection of self-responsibility. In fact, the wishful thinking has to go, the childish greed be given up. All attitudes which make you cling to a false God-image need to be changed before a true God-experience is possible. Every desire for escape must disappear first. Then the experience is built on a rock.</p>