



September 18, 2022

KNOWING GOD & BEING KNOWN BY GOD

We are created to know God. It is our greatest goal and our highest calling. As God's disciples, God made us to be students of who God is. The study of this head knowledge about God is not just for academic knowledge or studying for a test, but instead we study because we desire to know God. Once we start to know God, we begin to see others through the eyes of God. Through knowing God, we understand that God knows us. Below is a word bank of attributes of God. Which ones do you know? Which do you need to look up?

Holy Infinite Good Immutable Loving Self-Existent Truthful
Self-Sufficient Wrathful Omnipresent Just Omniscient Merciful
Omnipotent Gracious Sovereign Patient Jealous Wise Faithful
Eternal Incomprehensible & Transcendent

We were made to know God, and we were made to reflect God's own image to the world around us. There are characteristics of God that we can be, but there are also some that we can't (looking at you infinite & omnipotent) The most practical thing we can do is pursue an understanding of who God is. Reflecting God's attributes is not about trying harder and doing better in our own strength. Instead, it is about being fashioned by God's gentle hands into what God has called us to be.

This week: choose an attribute (that you can actually be) and attempt to do something for your family, friends, or peers every day. This can be as easy or as hard as you make it!



September 25, 2022

LIFE WORTH OF THE GOSPEL

The gospel changes everything. It is not just a heartwarming message that leads to our conversion. It is an enduring message of truth that radically changes our lives. For disciples, it is a precious message of hope that sustains, comforts, and encourages. Within our own life, discipleship takes a daily (and sometimes hourly!) yes to God's own call on our life. In light of our union with Christ, we are called to live in a manner worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1) Paul says this again in Philippians 1:27 and AGAIN in 1 Thessalonians 2:12 - But what does this life look like? Our first look is at scripture. Look up these passages:

Ezekiel 36:26 Ephesians 2:10
Colossians 1:9-12 1 Peter 2:9-12

Living a life worthy of the gospel is something we do in partnership with the Spirit. How does the work of God in your heart, soul, mind, and strength impact how you live your day to day life? If it doesn't right now, how should it?

When we pursue this life by engaging in spiritual disciplines. We commune with God through prayer. We give thanks and worship God with our lives because we find our deepest satisfaction, purpose and joy in God.

This week: Choose a scripture to read through every morning - let that scripture guide you throughout your day, because the more that we commune and have that relationship, the more we let that influence our own lives.



October 2, 2022

BIBLE STUDY METHODS

As we study the Bible, we are called to do so prayerfully and diligently (2 Timothy 2:15). To do this, we need God's help. Before studying begin with prayer. Next utilize a Bible study method that helps you accurately understand the passage (both in its original meaning and in its application!) Here are a couple of examples:

INDUCTIVE

The components of this method are observation (What dose the passage say?), interpretation (What does the passage mean?), and application (How should this truth change me?)

HIGHLIGHTING

This method is helpful through noting key words and ideas. As you read, use different colors for different themes. Examples Blue is for character of God, green is actions to do, pink is verses to memorize

EVERYDAY READ

By reading several chapters of scripture at a time everyday, you are able to understand big themes of the Bible. It can be helpful in this method to choose/make a reading plan and stick to it.

There are so many more methods that are out here and some that can be combined together. No matter what method you use, make sure to use a method that helps you study and connect with the scriptures.

This week: When you read scripture, ask these intentional application questions AFTER looking at that scripture through one of these study methods. What does this passage teach me about God? What does this passage teach me about mankind? What does this passage teach me about how mankind should respond to God? What does this passage teach me about how to respond to others?