

YEAR OF GROWTH

KNOWLEDGE WEEK 2

EXAMPLES

Old Testament:

There are many examples of men and women of knowledge in the Old Testament. We will focus on several who help us to understand the nature and action of knowledge.

Day One – Sunday

Reflect on the definitions of the words that God used to describe knowledge. Think back over the previous lessons. Read again the passages that you have written. Recall the verses you have memorized. Focus on the meaning of knowledge and wisdom and prepare to explore Bible examples of both.

Day Two – Monday

Job 42:1-6

The suffering faced by Job was a cause of great confusion. Job thought that the Lord was the cause. His friends thought that Job's sins were the reason for his difficulties. None of them understood that Satan was behind Job's misery. Thus, they spoke many words, but did so without correct knowledge. This is what Job confesses at the end of the book. By his experience, Job gained greater knowledge of God and His faithfulness. This caused him to repent and turn completely to the Lord.

Day Three – Tuesday

Hosea 4:1-6

Unlike Job, the people of Israel did not repent when they learned of their lack of knowledge. In fact, they willfully rejected knowledge. As a result, God rejected them. Notice that there was no knowledge of God in the land because they would not hear the word of God! A lack of knowledge always leads to destruction.

Day Four – Wednesday

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

God revealed His commandments to His people and instructed them to obey Him. Part of their responsibility was to teach God's will to others – especially their children. First, they were to

write God's word upon their own hearts. Then they were to teach others by talking about the will of God in every activity of life. We gain knowledge by reading and studying; we maintain knowledge by teaching and discussing.

Day Five – Thursday

Nehemiah 10:28-39

God's people failed to maintain and to teach the knowledge of His word as He had commanded them. Thus, God sent them into captivity. After 70 years in Babylon, they learned the lesson God was teaching them. Thus, when they came out of captivity, they took the knowledge of God's word very seriously. Nehemiah records that they knew exactly what God expected of them and they devoted themselves to obedience. Understand that this same knowledge had been available to the Israelites throughout their history! They had simply neglected and rejected it.

Day Six – Friday

2 Chronicles 30:21-27

Of all the people in the land, the priests were to have intimate knowledge of God's Word (cf. Lev. 10:8-11; Deut. 24:8; 33:8-11; 2 Chron. 17:8-10; Ezra 7:10; Neh. 8:1-9). It was their responsibility to teach the Law of God to the people of Israel. In the time of Hezekiah there was a restoration of obedience to God's will. Thus, the priests instructed the people, and the Passover was kept correctly for the first time in many years.

Day Seven – Saturday

Malachi 2:1-8

One of the duties of the Old Testament priests was to know the Law of God so they could teach it to others. Sadly, they failed in their responsibility. They departed out of the way, disobeying the law themselves. They caused many to stumble at God's Word instead of helping them to understand it. And, they corrupted the covenant God had made with them (Malachi 2:8).

According to the New Testament, Christians are priests of God (1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10). Our duty is to know God's Word so we can teach it to others. If someone should "seek the law" at your mouth, would you be able to teach them? God commands us to "be ready always to give an answer" (1 Peter 3:15). Yet, the only way we can be ready to teach is if we are doing our diligence to learn!