

YEAR OF GROWTH

KNOWLEDGE

WEEK 4

EXERCISE

How To Grow in Knowledge:

It is important to understand the meaning of knowledge and to see examples of the characteristic in Scripture. Yet, it is also important to do the work necessary to have knowledge and to develop wisdom. Our focus will be on passages that teach what one must do to have and to grow in knowledge of God and His Word.

Day One – Sunday

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

Day Two – Monday

I Timothy 4:12-16 – Read

God has chosen to reveal His Will to man in writing – Scripture (cf. Ephesians 3:3-4). Thus, to have knowledge of God’s Word, one must read it. God has consistently commanded the reading of His Word (cf. Exo. 24:7; Deut. 17:19; Josh. 8:34-35; Isa. 34:16; Jer. 36:23; Matt. 12:3, 5; 19:4; 21:16, 42; 22:31; Col. 4:16; 1 Thes. 5:27; Rev. 1:3). Paul instructed Timothy to “give attention” or devote himself to the reading of Scripture (likely both privately and publicly). To grow in knowledge, one must be a daily reader of the Bible.

Day Three – Tuesday

Acts 17:1-12 – Study

Those in Thessalonica heard the teaching of the apostle Paul. Notice that he taught the scriptures and used them to prove that Jesus is the Messiah and Savior. Some believed, but many did not. Those in Berea proved themselves to be more noble minded. They had an eagerness to hear and receive the Word of God. Yet, they also studied carefully what they heard. They “searched the scriptures daily” – examining them to see if what Paul taught was true. This was more than reading; it was study. To grow in knowledge, one must be a daily student of the Bible.

Day Four – Wednesday**Deuteronomy 11:16-21** – **Memorize**

God's Word is to be stored up in the hearts of His people. Paul instructed that the Word of Christ is to dwell richly in the Christian (Colossians 3:16). This verse means that it is to inhabit our minds abundantly. This requires memorization! *{One of the best ways to memorize is in song; thus, our "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" must be scriptural and should be filled with Bible!}* To grow in knowledge, one must commit the Word of God to memory.

Day Five – Thursday**Psalm 1** – **Meditate**

The blessed man delights in God's Word and meditates upon it day and night (cf. Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:97, 99). To meditate upon something is to ponder it thoroughly, to think it over from all approaches and in all aspects. One Greek word for "meditate" can also be translated as "practice" (cf. 1 Timothy 4:15). It is the idea of going over something until it is known, understood, and applied in one's life. To grow in knowledge, one must mediate upon the Bible.

Day Six – Friday**Acts 8:30-35** – **Preaching**

When Philip approached the Ethiopian, he asked him if he understood the scripture he was reading. The nobleman answered honestly that he needed someone to guide him in his study of God's Word. Thus, Philip preached Jesus to him. This was the same thing that he had done in the city of Samaria with the same results (Acts 8:5, 12). Often, it is helpful to have someone who has studied longer or more deeply to guide others in their learning of God's will. The Lord has designed preaching to do just that. It is included as a part of the worship of the church so that Christians can continue to be taught the scriptures. It is not a replacement for our own study, but a help in our studies. To grow in knowledge, one must participate in true worship by actively listening and studying along with the preaching.

Day Seven – Saturday**Matthew 28:18-20** – **Evangelize**

The Lord commanded His disciples to make disciples. Each Christian is to be an evangelist, going into the world and teaching the Gospel. In order to do this, one must first have knowledge of the Gospel. One of the best ways to increase one's knowledge of God's Word is to prepare to teach it to others. When instructing the lost, one is challenged with questions and different points of view. This leads to further study which increases one's knowledge. To grow in knowledge, one must actively engage in teaching others.