

Know, Love, and Grow

2 Peter 3:18

January 4, 2015

I. Life Resolution

- God gave us the Bible that we will know him better, love him more, and grow more like him (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

II. For us to grow, we must grow in knowledge (2 Peter 3:18).

- Knowing God better requires spending time in his Word.
- We make time for what we truly treasure (Matthew 6:21).
- Knowing who God is and what he has done for us in the gospel motivates us to spend time with him in his Word (Titus 2:11-14).
- Nothing is as precious and sweet as God's Word (Psalm 19:7-14).

III. For us to grow, we must grow in grace (2 Peter 3:18).

- A relationship with God begins with grace (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- A relationship with God is sustained by grace (Romans 5:1-2).
- Grace leads to craving after and feeding on the Word daily (1 Peter 2:2-3; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3; Acts 17:11; Matthew 4:4).

IV. For us to grow, we must grow in God's glory (2 Peter 3:18).

- Our motivation for growth must be God's glory (1 Cor. 10:31).

V. Practical Tips for Daily Time in the Word

- Thank God for the gospel first thing every morning.
- Remember that you are spending time with God and not just a book.
- Set aside 15-20 minutes every day to be in the Word.
- Pray that God will help you understand and apply his Word.
- Start reading one chapter a day in the Gospel of Mark or John.

- Think about what the Word says and how to apply it to your life.
- Have someone hold you accountable.
- Depend on the Holy Spirit and not "will power."
- Contact one of our pastors/elders to help you.

KNOW: You will not know God better, love him more, and grow more like him apart from spending time with him in his Word.

DO: Spend time with God in his Word daily so that you will know him better, love him more, and grow more like him.

Suggested Reading:

For the Love of God Volume One, by D.A. Carson (365-daily Bible reading plan)

For the Love of God Volume Two, by D.A. Carson (365-daily Bible reading plan)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

1. Read 2 Peter 3:18.
2. What did you find convicting, encouraging, and helpful from the sermon?
3. What book of the Bible are you reading? What are you learning/ applying?
4. Why are knowledge, grace, and God's glory required to grow more like Jesus?
5. What motivates you to spend time with God in his Word? What encourages you to be in the Word daily?
6. If you are not spending time with God in his Word on a daily basis, what is keeping you from doing so? What are you treasuring more than God? Is it as precious and sweet as God and his Word?
7. If you knew you were going to be stranded on a deserted island and could only have one material possession would it be the Bible? Why or why not?
8. If a person walked out of church today focusing solely on their failure what did they completely miss? What do they need to do?