

GOD WANTS US TO KNOW HIM

BIG TRUTH: GOD WANTS US TO KNOW HIM

Psalm 103:7; Proverbs 1:7; 3:5-6; Psalm 34:8; Galatians 1:12-16; Ephesians 3:14-19; Colossians 1:9-14; Philippians 3:13-14

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 1:16-17

“I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him,”

BIG IDEAS

- Knowing God and knowing about God are two different things.
- Knowing God is more than knowledge.
- Knowing God is a supernatural and incremental experience.

BIBLE PASSAGE: EPHESIANS 1:15-23

TRANSFORM - I AM IN CHRIST

The Transform Year is an exploration of what it means to become a “new creation” in Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:17) In order for this to happen, we must first find our identity in Him. Many of us live in a consistent state of identity crises. We wrestle with questions like who am I, where do I belong, why do I exist? The answer to these questions is found in Jesus. Our prayer for this semester is that like the Apostle Paul we would be able to say, “I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.” (Galatians 2:20).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- God is holy and we are separated from Him in our sin.
- The gospel transforms sinners into saints.
- The Christian life is about becoming who we already are in Christ.



Every student should feel...

- The depth of their sin against the holy God.
- Wonder and awe at the good news of the gospel.
- Secure in the identity that they now have in Jesus.



Every student should strive to...

- Read the entire book of Ephesians
- Memorize the Bible Verse each week during the Ephesians series.
- Learn how to use a commentary.



Every student should want to...

- Be transformed by the gospel.
- Put sin to death and pursue holiness.
- Share the good news of the gospel.

STUDENT WORKOUT:

Knowing about God and knowing God are not the same. This week we will consider what it means to know God rather than knowing about Him. We will pray to grow in our knowledge of God through the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit. We will practice growing through a study of His Word with our small group leaders.

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Meditate upon Ephesians 1:15-23 this week. Spend time every day considering these verses and what Paul's prayer means.

- In what ways could this prayer be beneficial in your own life?
- How do you need to grow in wisdom and knowledge of God?
- In what ways do you rely upon knowing about God rather than really knowing Him?
- In what ways have you seen God's great power on display in your life and the life of your local body of Christ?

Consider what it means that a knowledge of God is a supernatural and incremental experience.

- How has your study of God's Word revealed Him to you? How have you relied upon the Holy Spirit to supernaturally illuminate the truths of God's Word.
- How has your life changed over the past year, month, or even week? How can you see the incremental work of God's Spirit growing you in Him?

Read pages 33-41 in Christ Centered Expositor: Exalting Jesus in Ephesians.

- Read questions 1-3 in the Reflect and Discuss section. Take a moment and ponder these questions.



Set aside time this week to pray each night before you go to bed.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to a better understanding of God and His powerful hand at work in your life.

Make it a habit this week before you read or study God's Word to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher. Spend time asking God to illuminate the truths of what you are about to read to your heart and to grow you in a knowledge of Him.

Before praying, spend time reading through some of these resources and considering the way in which the Holy Spirit is our helper.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Odyphz9aI>
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/do-you-read-the-bible-like-a-nonbeliever>
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/four-prayers-for-bible-reading>



Set up a time to meet with your small group leader or your parent to talk about your present knowledge and understanding of God.

- Make a list of questions you have about God or things you'd like to know more about concerning God to take with you when you meet with your parent or small group leader.
- Talk through your questions and make a plan to find the answers in God's Word.
- Ask your parent or small group leader to guide you to a book of the Bible or commentary that might help you answer your questions or grow in your knowledge of God.