

## KNOWLEDGE

“Pastor, how does intellectual knowledge differ from knowledge as mentioned in the Bible?” In the New Testament there are two distinct usages; (1) the knowledge of God must be both experiential and intimate, and (2) the Greek word implies “full” or “complete” knowledge. Therefore, all things associated with the **knowledge of God** have to do with ‘relationship’. We experience God through intimate relationship with Him, and as a result we get to know Him completely. Here is a divine union, Christ is the husband and you are the bride (Ephesians 5:23). Therefore, as a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and they become one flesh, so too should you be in union with Christ (Ephesians 5:31-32). There is no greater intimacy than this!

The better we know God and experience His divine attributes, the better equipped we are to appropriate all the operating resources God has put at our disposal. What good is a resource if we do not use it? What good is authority if we do not exercise it? What good are the provisions of God if we do not use them? God catalogues all our assets in His Word. The child of God is supposed to read and study the Word so that he or she may be able to use every asset and ability efficiently. The better we know the “manual” the better we can use the equipment. Where do we start? We need to start by getting to know Him intimately, and thereafter this “knowledge” should grow and grow. We should know God better this week than we did last week. Our spiritual development should be further along than it was last month. Are you going forward or falling behind in your Christian walk? Are your spiritual wheels spinning without any progress?

Keep going forward; get ahead in your Christian walk. Just because you misfire occasionally, don't let that stop you. When you fall, don't stay down! Don't let time go by without confronting your uncertainties. Always take full responsibility and never put the blame on others because this only leads to resentment and bitterness. Disappointment is not terminal! Deal with it immediately and move on. Have you lost your spiritual resiliency? Are your spiritual reflexes as quick as they should be? In God's economy it is vital that we deal with our failings quickly. We need to keep short accounts with God. Remember to “clear and cleanse” daily!

Is this stocktaking time for you? What does your spiritual inventory look like? Do you ever say, “Lord, I have been bitter toward.... I have been mean toward.... What is the matter with me? Why am I so angry? Why am I so irritable? Why am I always so frustrated? God, I'm quick to blame everyone and anyone. What is wrong with me Lord?” What's wrong is that you have embraced the wrong kind of knowledge. Your understanding of your situation is based on carnal knowledge and not knowledge of God. If you know God completely you will trust Him completely! Make up your mind to know Him more and more and I assure you that your circumstances will change for the better.