



Bird's Eye View

by Greg Simnor

Chapter 1: What is the Purpose of our Faith?

Theme: Knowing Him Part 1 - Pages 5-15.

Key Truth: To Know Him

Key Scripture: *John 14:8-9, Philippians 3:7-11, 2 Corinthians 11:3*

If you were asked what the number 1 purpose and priority of our relationship with God is, how would you have honestly answered before reading this book? Would you have answered like so many do, from a functional works based perspective?

The challenge for many in the body of Christ is not so much being able to answer correctly but to live correctly. It's easy to give the right answer, ie knowing Him, but it's another thing completely to live a life where knowing Him actually is in fact our number 1 priority.

A person who lives a life of knowing Him as their core priority and purpose, will have the corresponding life that is evident with this practise. The apostle Paul gave us a really good example of what knowing God looks and sounds like. He said everything he had accomplished to this point in his life he considered rubbish compared to knowing Jesus Christ.

We have to all be aware that there is a false knowledge or knowing and then there is a true knowledge or knowing. A knowledge about is very different to a knowledge of, even though they can sound the same. A knowledge of enables and empowers us to live a Christ like life. A knowledge about keeps us living the way we always have, fleshly.

It's the knowing of God that empowers the living like God. The scriptures say we don't yet know as we ought to know. The demonstration of our lives will be a direct reflection of our true knowledge of God. There is only one way we can receive and acquire the knowing of God which makes us free. This is through been shown and given it by the revelation of the Spirit. Flesh and blood can not give us the knowledge or knowing of God.

Matthew 16:15-18 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it."

Jesus builds His church on the revelation of the knowledge of Himself. The revelation that the Spirit gives. No revelation from the Spirit, no building of the church. The church stays exactly the same. This is the most critical aspect of our walk with Him.

Don't let the simplicity of 'knowing Him' fool you into looking for more. All we truly need is to know Him and we can live as Him.

Questions:

1. Discuss as a group what a knowledge of Jesus is from what has been shared?
2. How does knowing the fact that we can't know of Him, without the Spirit's revelation make you feel?
3. Why has the Father set it up this way?
4. Philip was with Jesus for 3.5 years and didn't really know of Jesus. - why?
5. What is the evidence in our lives of truly knowing of Him?

Action point: What are you being made aware of through this resource and is there one thing you need to put in place after going through this resource?