Oncreasing On The

KNOWLEDGE

OFGOD

Colossians 1:9-12; 2 Peter 3:14-18

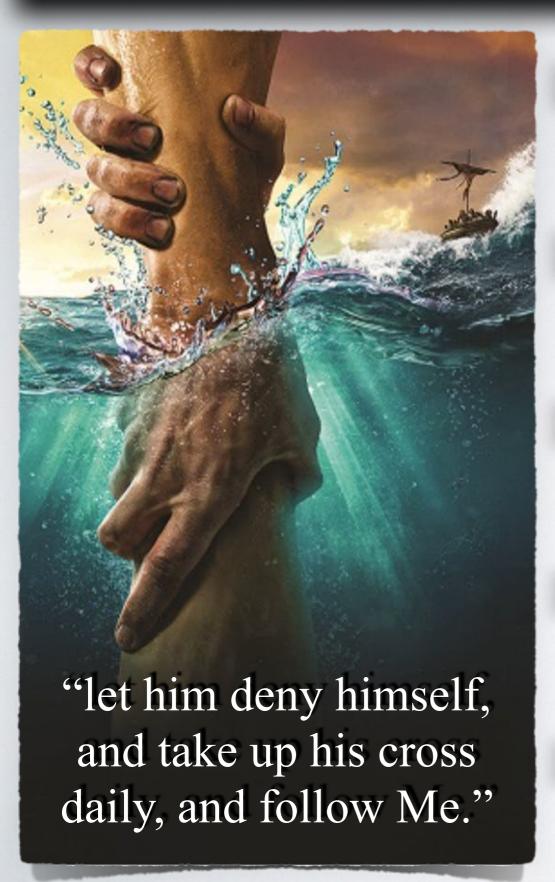
WALKING IN HIS STEPS SERMON SERIES: GROWING IN CHRIST

WALKING IN HIS STEPS SERMON SERIES: GROWING IN CHRIST

Where We Have Been...

- 1. What Becoming A Christian Is All about
- 2. What We Have In Christ

What Becoming A Christian Is All about



- It's NOT ALL about ME
 IT's ALL ABOUT JESUS!
- TRUSTING JESUS ENOUGH TO Obey Him!
- LEARNING ALL WE CAN about JESUS!
- FOLLOWING JESUS By Doing What He Says!
- BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS!

What We Have IN CHRIST

- **EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING**
- **ADOPTION / ACCEPTANCE**
- SALVATION / FORGIVENESS
- REDEMPTION / FREEDOM from sin
- PEACE WITH GOD / SECURITY
- ETERNAL LIFE IF WE ABIDE IN HIM
 WE WILL BE WITH HIM FORVER -

WALKING IN HIS STEPS SERMON SERIES: GROWING IN CHRIST

Where We Are Going

- 1. What Becoming A Christian Is All about
- 2. What We Have In Christ
- 3. Increasing in The Knowledge of God
- 4. Standing Against Evil Forces
- 5. Giving All Diligence To Grow
- 6. Bearing Fruit That Honors God
- 7. Growing By Serving In The Body
- 8. Living For Heaven Keeping Our Focus

Colossians 1:9-12 (NKJV)

⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

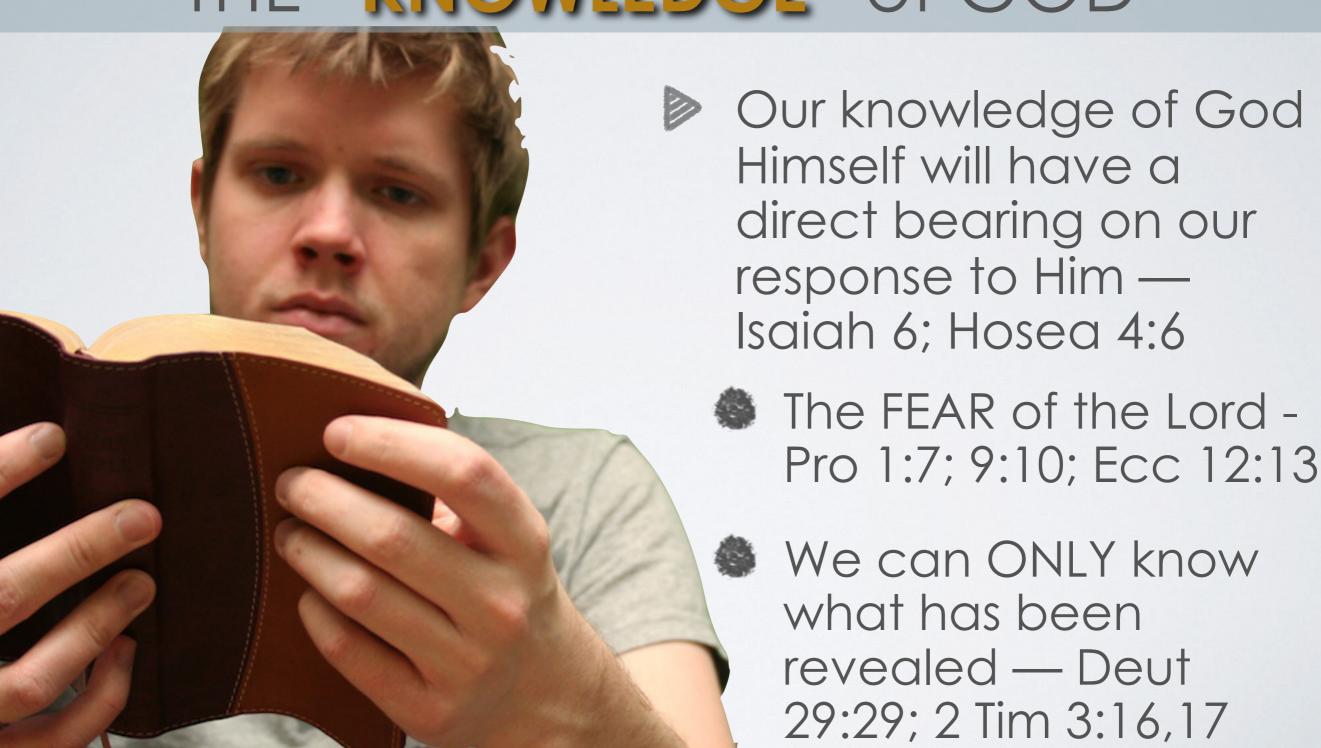
2 Peter 3:14-18 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; 15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

2 Peter 3:14-18 (NKJV)

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

THE "KNOWLEDGE" of GOD



THE "KNOWLEDGE" of GOD

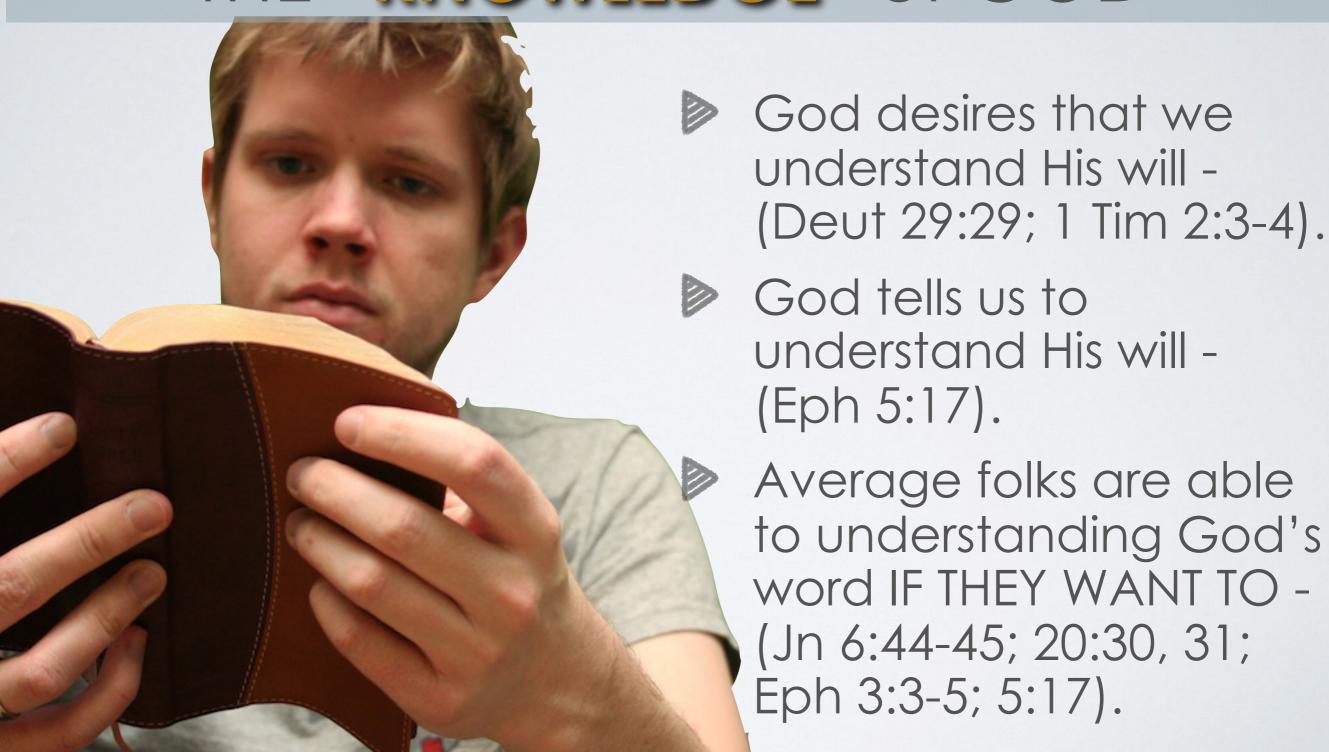


God's ways are **NOT** our ways, and His thoughts are **NOT** our thoughts — Is 55:8,9

God, and His ways, cannot be known apart from **HIS** revelation — 1 Co. 1:18-22; 2:13; Ep 3:3-5;

We **MUST KNOW** what He has revealed to be pleasing to HIM — 2 Tim 2:15; 1 Tim 4:12-16; 1 Pet 4:11; Jer. 6:16; Lu 6:46-49

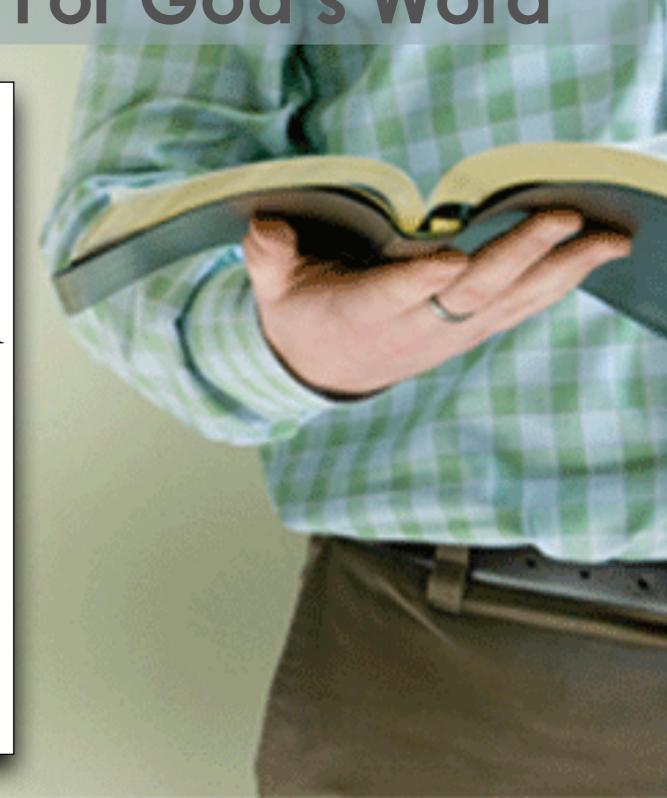
THE "KNOWLEDGE" of GOD



Develop Hunger For God's Word

1 Peter 2:1–3 (NKJV)

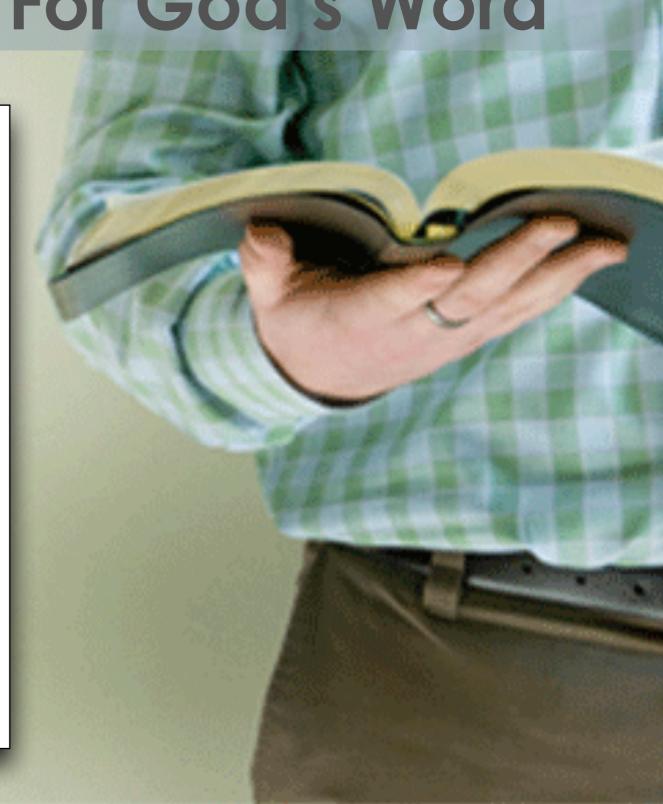
¹ Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.



Develop Hunger For God's Word

Matthew 5:6 (NKJV)

6 Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.



Desire To OBEY the GOD'S WILL

John 7:17 (NKJV)

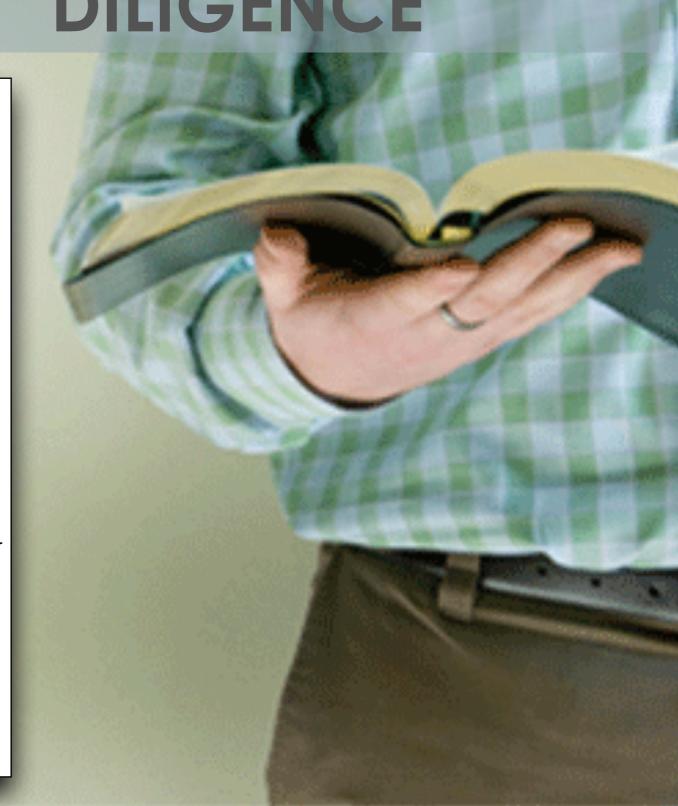
17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority.



The Need For "DILIGENCE"

2 Peter 3:14 (NKJV)

14 Therefore, beloved,
 looking forward to
 these things, be
 diligent to be found by
 Him in peace, without
 spot and blameless;

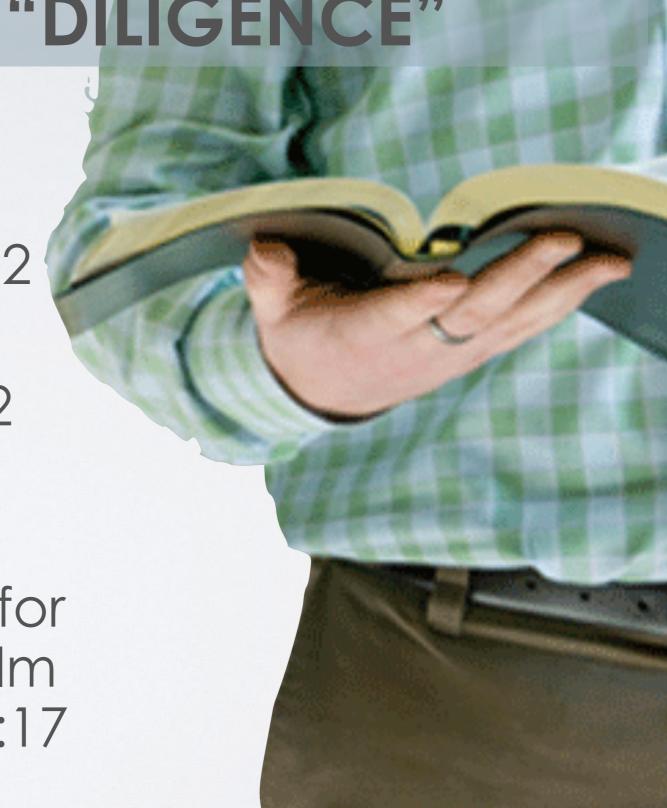


The Need For "DILIGENCE"

To show ourselves approved of God—2 Tim 2:15; Acts 17:11,12

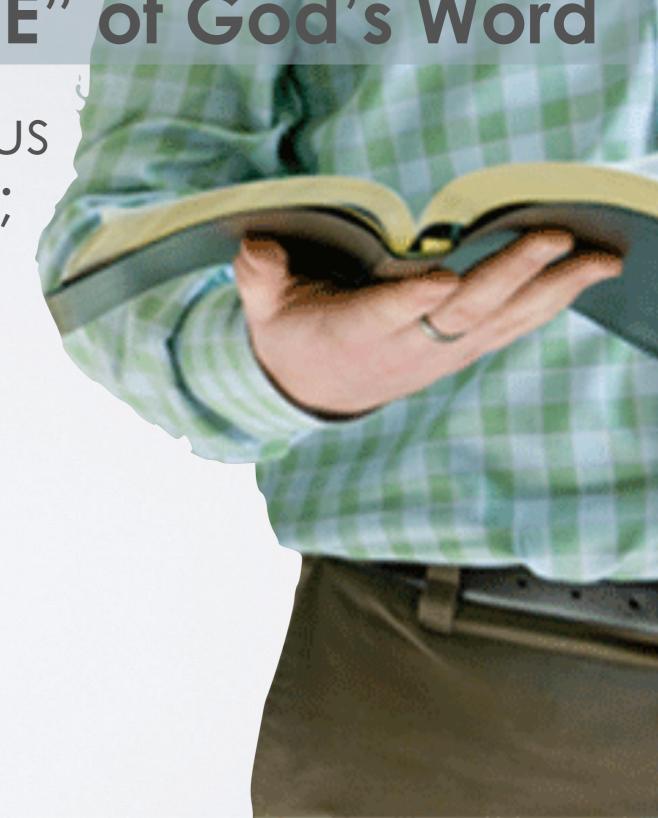
To grow spiritually—2 Peter 1:5-11; 1 Pet 2:2

Our seeking of God's revealed way is a reflection of our LOVE for God & His word — Psalm 1:2; 119:97-104; John 7:17



The Need for "LOVE" of God's Word

- God is patient with us 2 Pet 3:15; Ps 86:15; Rom 2:4
- ▶ God desires us to come to a knowledge of the truth that we might be saved 1 Tim 2:3,4; Mat 23:37; James 1:18,21



The Need for "LOVE" of God's Word

▶ God has given us all we need — John 3:16; Col. 1:19; 2 Pet 1:3; 2 Tim 3:16,17

▶ Those who Love Him will be saved — Rom 8:28; 1 Thes 2:13; 2 The 2:13-16; 1 Jn 5:1-4



The Need for "LOVE" of God's Word

- Those who do not love the truth & do not desire to obey the truth will be LOST—
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12
 - Romans 1:18-26
 - **1** Cor 16:22
 - 2 Timothy 3:4ff
 - John 3:18-21



Hard To Understand Things??

2 Peter 3:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.



Hard To Understand Things??

- Some things are hard to understand! — Romans; Revelation; Co 1:10
 - Unbelievers deny the word of God 1 Cor. 1:18ff; 2 Pet. 3:1-9; etc.
 - The ignorant and unstable twist the word of God Psalm 56:5; Heb 5:12; Rom. 1:18-26; Gal 1:6-9; Rev 22:18,19; etc.

Obey What You Know!!!

2 Peter 3:17 (NKJV)

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;



Obey What You Know!!!

Stand fast in what you know is the truth — 2 Pet 1:12; Col. 2:7; 2 Tim 3:15

The fundamental principles of Christianity are NOT difficult to understand (The plan of salvation; the need to trust, love & obey God)—Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 8:30-39; 16:30-34; etc.



Obey What You Know!!!

Stand fast in what you know is the truth — 2 Pet 1:12; Col. 2:7; 2 Tim 3:15

If I am unwilling to obey the clear teachings of scripture - I will never understand the deeper things — Lk 16:10

Spiritual discernment takes time AND EFFORT along with FAITH — Hebrews 5:12-14; 2 Timothy 2:15; James 1:5,6; Hebrews 11:1-30 ...

BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS

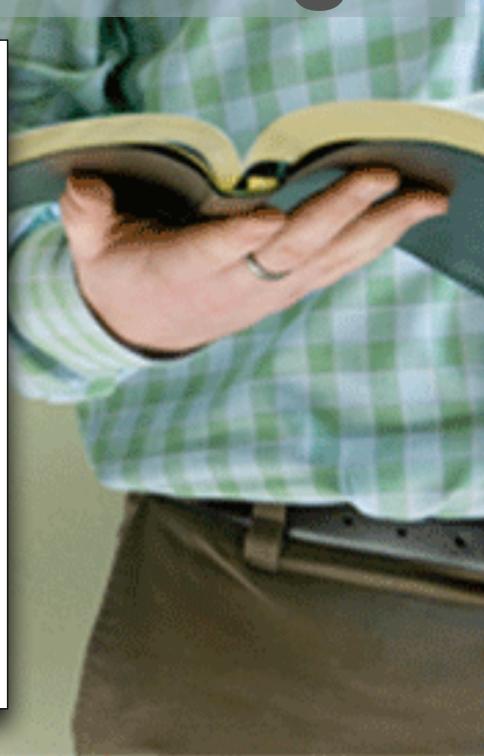
- The danger of deception / The danger of falling is real! 2 Pet 3:17; 2:1ff
 - Heb. 3:13-4:11;
 - 1 Cor 10:1-12;
 - 2 Pet 2:18-22;
 - Col. 1:23;
 - Gal. 5:1-4;



We Must Keep Learning

2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.



We Must Keep Learning

- The verb "grow" is a present imperative, which means we should "be continually growing" in knowledge i.e., Col. 1:10; cf. Heb 5:12; Ep 4:15
- ▶ To grow, we must read, study, meditate on & obey God's word Ps 19:7-11; 1 Tim 4:13-16; 2 Tim 2:15; Rom 10:17; etc.

We Must Keep Learning

- Read your Bible Eph 3:5; Acts 17:11
- Attend Bible studies Acts 10:33; Heb 5:12
- Attend worship services —
 1 Cor 14; Heb 10:24,25;
 Eph 5:19; Col. 3:16
- Being doers of the word and not hearers only — James 1:21-25

- Develop Hunger for the truth
- Desire to obey the truth
- Commit to following the truth wherever it takes you

WALKING IN HIS STEPS SERMON SERIES: GROWING IN CHRIST

- It matters what WE believe John 8:24; 32,33
- Honesty & Humility Are MORE important than intelligence! Luke 8:15
- Obey what you know Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:9,10

WALKING IN HIS STEPS SERMON SERIES: GROWING IN CHRIST

WALKING IN HIS STEPS SERMON SERIES: GROWING IN CHRIST

Increasing In The

KNOWLEDGE

OFGOD

Colossians 1:9-12; 2 Peter 3:14-18

Charts by Don McClain

Preached January 20, 2019
West 65th Street church of Christ/ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 / 501-568-1062
Prepared using Keynote

Email - donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

Our Website: w65stchurchofchrist.com

2 Peter 3:14-18 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; 15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

2 Peter 3:14-18 (NKJV)

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.