

The Know and Grow Devo

Week 1 (Sunday, May 20th - Saturday, May 26th)

Congratulations! You made a decision to grow in your faith by taking on this challenge. If you haven't already, turn the page over to familiarize yourself with how the challenge works and what we are praying will happen in your life and our church through this challenge.

The Know and Grow Devo pack was made to suit a variety of contexts. So make it your own and use it in a way that best fits your context. For example, if you're doing it by yourself you can use it as a personal devotion. Or a family can read the devo out loud to facilitate a discussion, etc.

Reflection (yourself or your group):

1. Why are *you* doing The Know and Grow Challenge?
2. Why is memorizing Scripture an important part of the Christian life?
3. Are you willing to not only memorize Psalm 1 but also let it shape you this summer?

Read: Psalm 1 out loud. All six verses.

Reminder: This is more than just getting the exact words committed to memory. The goal is to meditate on Psalm 1 and let the words speak to us and change us. So let's start with verse 1.

Reading and Reflection: Read Psalm 1:1 and reflect. "Blessed (or "happy" or "how happy") is the man" is how the Psalm starts out. The type of happiness being talked about is the joy that we experience when we know that God is present with us and experience his presence. Why is it a blessing for God to be with us?

When have you recently experienced God's presence with you? What was that experience like?

What things has God blessed you with?

How has God blessed your blood and/or church family?

Pray: Thank God for his joy-giving presence. Thank him for specific blessings in your life. Ask him to continue to bless you and your family with his presence. Pray that he would use the Know and Grow Challenge to draw you closer to him and that you would be firmly rooted in his love.

Memorize: Verse 1 by June 3.

Mnemonic devices (ESV):

Walks/Stands/Sits is a threefold progression from more active to less active.

Repetition of words with same first letter (Walks/Wicked; Stands/Sinners; Sits/Scoffers).

Example of a word picture you can use: Picture a person or yourself *walking* on a path with a gang (*counsel of the wicked*); then, on the path (*way*) you take a break from walking (*stands*); finally you see a throne (*seat*) at the end of the path in front of you. The throne is surrounded by jesters (*scoffers*) and you hasten to go *sit in the seat*.

The Know and Grow Challenge

Know the word; grow in the Lord.

What is it: A challenge to memorize all of Psalm 1 (know) in order to give our faith deep roots in God's word (grow). Weekly devotions will help apply what is being memorized and learned.

Who is it for: Every individual at Pathway Community Church who wants to be more deeply rooted in God's word.

Why do it: We are praying that...

1. Our church and each member of our church would more clearly see Jesus, know Jesus, and grow in their love for Him and His word (Hebrews 1:1-3).
2. Our households would take a new step forward in intentionally allowing God's word to shape our everyday life and practice (Deuteronomy 6:1-9).
3. We, as individuals and a church, would be more in awe of God's word (Psalm 19:7-11).
4. We, as individuals and a church, would begin to store more of God's word in our hearts (Psalm 119:11).
5. We, as individuals and a church, would learn how to delight in God's word (Psalm 1).

How to do it: First, *make the decision* to take the challenge and choose who to do it with. Do it by yourself, with a friend, or with your whole household. Second, pick up or print out your "Know and Grow Devo" pack. Finally, start memorizing and engaging with the weekly devo!

Suggested Memory Schedule (have it memorized by):

- Verse 1: June 3
- Verse 2: June 17
- Verse 3: July 1
- Verse 4: July 15
- Verse 5: July 29
- Verse 6: August 6

Steps to success:

1. Commit to a specific time in your schedule to memorizing/reviewing (in the car, doing chores, at the dinner table, etc).
2. Get *ahead* of the memory schedule (at the very least stay on target).
3. Review what you have memorized daily... try using different contexts for review (write it down, type it out, say it out loud to a friend/yourself, say it in your head, listen to it on your phone, etc).
4. Talk with your friends or family weekly about what you are learning from the Psalm. Talk about *everything!* The new things that you're noticing as a result of meditating on it; the things that God is teaching you; how you are seeing it applied in your life; the beauty of the poem; the emotions it evokes; etc!
5. Engage in the weekly devotion to help drive home all of your *knowing* and *growing*.