

The Know and Grow Devo

Week 3 (Sunday, June 3rd - Saturday, June 9th)

Read: Psalm 1 out loud. All six verses.

Reminder/Reflection: Verse 1 teaches us what is *not true* about the blessed person. We were warned against actively or passively allowing sin or any obstacle to draw us away from life with Jesus. Verse two tells us what *is true* about the blessed person. We do not merely *turn* from wickedness but we also *pursue* godliness. Before we dive into that, take a moment to reflect:

1. What is God teaching you about himself as you memorize and meditate on Psalm 1?
2. The challenge is to *know* and *grow*. In what way(s) have you been growing so far?
3. How has memorizing and meditating on Psalm 1 impacted your walk with Jesus?

Reading and Reflection: Read Psalm 1:1-2. The opening words of verse 2 are set in contrast to verse 1. Personally, I thought that the opposite of verse 1 would say something like, “instead he does good things and hangs out with Christians all the time”. Why did the Psalmist choose the phrase, “his delight is in the instruction of the LORD” as the opposite of verse 1 (go ahead and reflect on this question -- it is not hypothetical)?

Digging deep: “Law” is the Hebrew word Torah. It doesn’t mean “law” as in a set of do’s and don’ts but *instruction*. For Jewish people, God’s instruction was all written Scripture -- the Old Testament. The main purpose of God’s instruction is to reveal Himself. So as we read Psalm 1 the word law essentially means this: God’s revelation of Himself to us through all of Scripture, and through Jesus -- instructing us about who He is and what that means for our lives.

Reflection:

1. The word “delight” often carries the connotation of “desire” as well. In light of our understanding of “Torah” (law), what does it mean to delight in or deeply desire the “law of the LORD”? (God’s revelation of Himself to us through his instruction about who he is and what that means for us)
2. How does delighting in God’s instruction protect us against the pitfalls of verse 1?
3. We can delight in Scripture because of (1) what it reveals to us about God and (2) the beauty of Scripture itself. What parts of Scripture do you delight in the most? Why?
4. (Along with #3) List some of the most impactful “instructions” from the LORD that you are currently aware of. What do they teach you about God and how does that impact you?

Pray: Thank God for revealing Himself to you through His word. Ask that He would give you greater delight in Scripture and in the things that He reveals through it. Spend some time telling God the things about Him that you delight in. Ask that His word would continue to protect you from walking in the way of the wicked.

Memorize: Verse 2 by June 17. Mnemonic device: Law of the Lord (and the repetition of Law).

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*.