

## The Know and Grow Devo

Week 4 (Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>)

**Read:** Psalm 1 out loud. All six verses.

**Reminder:** Last week we reflected on delighting in God's "law". Remember that "law" means 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. The opposite of a lifestyle of wickedness is a lifestyle that delights in God's "law".

**Reading and Reflection:** Read Psalm 1:1-2. God's "law" (see above) is a key concept not only in verse 2 but in the whole Psalm. The word "law" is here repeated twice. God's instruction is utterly absent from the "way of the wicked" in verse 1, but the love for and meditation on God's instruction is what characterizes the "blessed" person. There is absolute joy in knowing God and His word. The Psalm continues with "on His law he meditates day and night". Day and night and day and night and day and night and on and on. The picture here is of a person who is constantly being reminded of who God is and constantly letting God's instruction shape her life. God's word is like a slow-cooker. I love a good pulled chicken that has been simmering for 10 hours! In the same way, years upon years of "simmering" in God's word will make one joy-filled and steadfast.

Sometimes I find myself "meditating" on things that have no eternal value (EG where should I go for dinner; lyrics of too many secular songs, etc), is there anything in your life that fills your mind and inhibits you from meditating on God's word day and night?

How often do you find yourself meditating on God's word throughout the day or week?

What practical things can you do in your life to meditate even more on the words of God?

**Reflection:** The idea of day/night is really the habit of habitually filling our minds with God's word. This may seem obvious, but go ahead and take some time reflecting on *why* constant meditation on God's word brings blessing and fruitfulness into the life of a believer.

**Challenge:** One of the most effective ways possible to meditate on God's word day and night is to store God's word in our minds and hearts (in other words, *memorizing* God's word). Be steadfast in memorizing Psalm 1 this Summer and grow a love for storing more Scripture up in your heart! Commit to making Scripture memory a regular practice of yours.

**Pray:** Thank God for the gift of His word to us. Ask him to teach you how to meditate on His word day and night. Ask that he would give you joy as you seek Him throughout your day. Ask God to give you the capacity to store more and more of his word in your heart and mind.

**Memorize:** Verse 2 by June 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **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*.