

SERMON SERIES: The Best Summer Ever

SPEAKER: Ryan Lingbloom

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Sermon Title

“Knowledge”

Introduction

This week we continued our series called Best Summer Ever. During this series, we will explore the passage of 2 Peter 1:5-8 to help us close the gap between who we are now and who Christ is calling us to be. This week’s focus is *Knowledge*. Peter tells us that we need to make every effort to supplement our faith with *knowledge*, and in doing so become more effective and productive in our faith.

- What is the most interesting/unique fact that you know?

Seek the Word

- Read Philippians 3:10. Paul speaks about a desire to *know Christ*, in both the power of his resurrection and participating in the same suffering Jesus went through. What do you think it means for you to *know Christ*, and become like him “in his death”?
- Read Luke 22:54-62. Peter, when confronted at Jesus’ trial, denies ever *knowing* Jesus. One of Jesus’ closest followers claims to have never known him. Think about a time in your life where you have denied knowing Jesus, either by word or action. What drove you to do that, and what did that feel like?

Go Deeper

The concept of “knowing” God can seem daunting. An invisible, all-powerful ruler that seems at times so very distant from us mere humans. What parts of God seem the hardest to “know”? How can you begin to learn more about those parts of God to *know* Him better?

Talk About It

- Ryan gave us 3 ways that we can grow in our knowledge of God.
 1. *To grow in our knowledge of God, we need to foster curiosity.* Do you struggle to say “I don’t know”? What aspects of your faith have you been hesitant to live out, because you “don’t know” enough about it?
 2. *To grow in our knowledge of God, we need to welcome input.* Name 3 people in your life who offer consistent input and wisdom into your faith. What makes their input so valuable? If you cannot name 3 people, what is the roadblock in your life to finding wise counsel about your faith?
 3. *To grow in our knowledge of God, we need to put into practice the things we have learned.* There are always things that we can do better on. Think about and name 1 thing that you know you need to be doing to deepen your faith, to get better connected to God, but haven’t. Why is that? What steps can you take to begin implementing that action into your life?

Wrap Up

Reminder: Our faith is strengthened when we pursue a deeper knowledge and understanding of God, especially when that knowledge is translated from our brains to our hearts. Faith without knowledge, and knowledge without action, leaves us ineffective in our lives as disciples. We hope that through Ryan's message, our continued study in 2 Peter 1:5-8, and this series as a whole that we can all continue to grow in deeper faith and live out the calling God has placed on our lives.

Challenge: Ryan challenged us as a church to follow the S.O.A.P reading method for the rest of the month of July, either through a chapter of Proverbs each day or in some other Bible study that you are currently working through. Our hope is that you take this challenge seriously and intentionally, and hopefully see some deep and powerful growth in your faith over the next month.

S.O.A.P

- **Scripture:** After reading through a chapter of Proverbs (or some other study you are currently in) three times, write down one or two verses that stand out to you— things that seem to leap off the page and catch your attention.
- **Observation:** Write down the questions, thoughts, facts, etc. about the Scripture that you have based on your reading.
- **Application:** Think about and write down how God would have you live/talk/respond based on what you found in Scripture that day.
- **Prayer:** Based on what you have read, observed, and learned to apply, pray about it. Include God in the conversation and ask for His wisdom and grace in the process of deepening your faith.