



WOW: Word Of the Week

Knowledge

March 17, 2021

Let's talk about knowledge. No fancy definitions, nothing intricate details or definitions, nothing about knowledge that implies relationship. Simple knowledge—what do we know?

God's people must be people of knowledge.

Three texts, three points. Everybody needs to know. We need to know. The Bible. Who Jesus is.

Deuteronomy 17:14-20. In the Old Testament, one job of the king was to know the law, to read it, to learn it, to reverence God, to carefully follow all of God's laws and decrees. It is not possible to follow instructions you do not know or are not aware of. Knowledge is essential, a prerequisite, for God's leaders.

Hosea 4:6. Lack of knowledge is destructive. The Old Testament word has a variety of meanings, but the basic idea is the ability to know, to be able to learn, to perceive, to find out and discern, to discriminate or distinguish, to know by experience. Israel in the Old Testament was perishing and walking away from God for lack of knowledge. Hosea suggests that a major factor was the lack of knowledge among the religious leaders, the priests. When the religious leaders failed in knowledge, the people followed.

Titus 1:9. In the midst of Paul's description of the leaders whom Titus was to appoint for the church on Crete, he mentions "holding firmly" to the trustworthy message. The original word means to hold "face to face." God's leader always has directly in front of him the word of God. He cannot see anything else without first seeing the Word of God. The Word of God gives healthy teaching to guide our lives.

The value and importance of God's Word is declared throughout the Bible. Two of my favorite Old Testament passages are Psalm 19 and Psalm 119. In these two psalms, one clearly sees the value and importance of God's Word. May our attitude, and our action in learning and sharing God's message be the same.

This would a good time to develop life rhythms for dwelling in God's word and seeking his knowledge!