



THE MORE YOU KNOW

DISCOVERING TRUTH

The More You Know
Small Group Material
Participant Guide

Part 1 - "What Happened?"
September 17th, 2017

Bottom Line: *When knowledge replaces trust, we will never get to love.*

Study Verses: *Genesis 2:8-9, Genesis 2:15-17, Genesis 3:4-7, 1 Corinthians 8:1-3*

Key Points

- *The truth is more than facts and information. It is a force that demands submission.*
- *Obedience to truth purifies the soul.*
- *Everybody has been disappointed by what they believed.*
- *Believing something deeply has no bearing on the truth of it.*
- *Truth is simply the state of what is real.*
- *Wisdom begins with God's perspective.*
- *You can't give or get enough information to build a relationship.*
- *Knowing as you ought isn't a matter of mere facts. It's a matter of trust.*
- *Knowledge puffs up while love builds up.*
- *Scoffing is where skepticism meets arrogance.*
- *To authentically pursue truth, you must hold out the possibility that you might be wrong.*
- *A scoffer seeks wisdom in vain.*

ENCOUNTER

- When you hear the word "truth" what comes to mind? How would you define truth? Who gets to determine what is true?
- What drives our desire for knowledge and truth? What are some positive, as well as negative, motivations for seeking out truth?
- What is the connection between truth and trust? What role do our emotions play when we encounter truth?

FORMATION

- Read Genesis 2:8-9 and Genesis 2:15-17. What two trees were planted in the middle of the Garden of Eden? What was God protecting Adam from by prohibiting him from eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? In the midst of the prohibition, what freedom still existed?
- Read Genesis 3:4-7. How did the enemy cause Adam and Eve to question God and His character? How was trust broken? What made gaining wisdom desirable to them?
- Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-3. What does Paul (the author of 1 Corinthians) mean when he says that knowledge "puff up" while love "build up"? Why is humility required when one pursues truth?
- Read John 8:31-32. What is it about truth that sets people free? Why don't many of us experience this type of freedom?

EXPRESSION

- Wisdom begins with God's perspective. Think of a situation you are having a hard time understanding. How can you see things from God's perspective and how would this view alter your attitude and actions?
- Believing something deeply has no bearing on the truth of it. What power do our emotions have in clouding our judgement? Can you think of a time when your emotions caused you to ignore or deny wisdom?
- To authentically pursue truth, you must hold out the possibility that you might be wrong. Where do you need to display humility in your pursuit of the truth? What is causing you to be a scoffer in this situation?