



THE MORE YOU KNOW

DISCOVERING TRUTH

The More You Know
Small Group Material
Leader Guide

Part 2 - "The Way Truth Gets Known"
September 24th, 2017

Bottom Line: *Truth is discovered by faith.*

Study Verses: *1 Corinthians 8:1-3, John 8:31-32, Psalm 119:18, Ephesians 1:18, Psalm 25:5, Psalm 86:11*

Define The Win: *Participants would understand the element faith and obedience play in discovering truth. They would reflect on the places where pride, their desire for control and attitude are negatively influencing their pursuit of truth.*

Key Points

- *Knowing truth is only developed by experiencing truth.*
- *Living wisely requires clean sight.*
- *We typically search for information to free us from faith and create a certainty we can control, navigate and solve.*
- *The Scriptures are not given as evidence of faith, but rather serve as a calling to faith.*
- *Our trustful obedience avails us to being known by God.*
- *We think we find freedom by holding on. Yet, freedom is only found when we let go and trust.*
- *The first step in finding the truth is coming to the truth.*
- *The opposite of faith isn't doubt, but certainty.*

- *You can have all the answers yet still not be free.*
- *You love God by making Him the first person you come to when you can't figure things out on your own.*

ENCOUNTER

- How can our heart's posture affect our understanding? How does the attitude we hold influence what we see and trust?
- What is the opposite of faith: doubt or certainty? What makes you answer in the way that you do?
- You can have all the answers yet still not be free. How have you seen this statement lived out in your own life as well as those around you? If our freedom isn't found in having all the answers, where is it located?
- What is a truth you doubted at first, but eventually learned it was true through having faith and experiencing it?

FORMATION

- Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-3. Is it possible to know things, but not understand them fully? What does the author mean when he says, "Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know?"
- Read John 8:31-32. How does our obedience avail or open us to being known by God? In what ways does obedience speak to our trust in Him?
- Read Psalm 119:18 and Ephesians 1:18. What does it mean for the "eyes of our heart to be opened"? How does our sight, and what we see, influence our heart and understanding of truth?
- Read Psalm 25:5 and Psalm 86:11. How do these Scriptures speak to truth being something revealed to us when we're willing to obey and take steps of faith?

EXPRESSION

- We think we find freedom by holding on. Yet, freedom is only found when we let go and trust. What do you find yourself holding on to hoping you'll find freedom? Why are you hesitant to loosen your grip? What would it look like to let go and trust?
- Living wisely requires clean sight. Where is your perspective and vision currently cloudy or distorted?

- **Truth is revealed one step of faith at a time. What has God been revealing to you about His character and your heart lately? What are you learning through your steps of obedience?**

LEADER INSIGHT: *It is possible for one to have all the answers, yet still not be free. "Going deeper" is dangerous waters when one finds themselves drowning in the shallow end of a faith not lived out. Knowledge that remains stuck in our brain but never sees the light of day is not truly understood. We might comprehend these bits of truth in theory, but knowing truth is only developed through experiencing truth. Truth is discovered by faith.*

We open up God's Word and are bombarded with wisdom and insight. We nod our head when we come across Scripture that tell us it is better to give than receive, to forgive as we've been forgiven, to not lean on our understanding, to pray continually, to store up treasures in Heaven. We can memorize these verses, post them to our Facebook wall or even share them with our friends and family.

In our minds, we believe we understand and comprehend these passages. This insight might be lodged in our heart, but unless we put that knowledge into practice; all we have is information. The Scriptures were not given as evidence of faith, but rather serve as a calling to faith. Unfortunately, we typically search for information to free us from faith and create a certainty we can control, navigate and solve.

We don't know how dangerous this mindset is in terms of crippling the intimacy and knowledge we have of God. The opposite of faith isn't doubt but certainty. We foolishly believe that freedom is found by holding on when true freedom can only be experienced when we let go and trust. Our trustful obedience opens us up and avails us to being known by God. We show our love for God by making Him the first person we come to when we can't figure things out on our own.