Lesson 6 - How the Knowledge of God Changes our Homes

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Introduction: The knowledge of God changes lives!

- A. There is no greater goal than to help and lead our family members to heaven.
 - 1. The development of the character and faith of an individual is a goal that any honest person would find themselves wanting help. (Judges 13:8)
 - 2. As I raise my children I often think of the challenges I presented to my parents.
 - 3. There will be <u>no greater reward for me</u> than to give <u>my family and</u> myself to the Lord for eternity! (1 Sam 1:11)
- B. We have wonderful things to meditate upon when we know God! (Ps 63:6; 139:1-4)
 - 1. The presence of God should be a great comfort to us. (Isa 58:2)
 - 2. This every day view of God allows us to be instant in prayer and praise.
 - 3. Over time we will be greatly changed. (Rom 8:29)

I. My life must reflect the nature of God

- A. My knowledge of *His holiness* humbles me to <u>seek His ways</u>. (Ps 18:21-23)
 - 1. To serve a holy God I must seek His holiness. (1 Pt 1:15-16)
 - 2. The path to holiness is molded by the longsuffering, love and forgiveness of God. We are pursuing Him as our Father as a young man imitates his dad.
- B. How can we build a foundation on the knowledge of God? (Col 1:9-10)
 - 1. There is a way of thinking that changes us.
 - 2. Where do I find *my self-worth*? Consider several questions.
 - a. What do I boast in? (Jer 9:23-24)
 - b. Who do I identify myself with? (1 Cor 1:12)
 - c. Whose traditions do I follow? (John 8:38-39)
 - d. Whose glory do I really want? (John 5:42-44; 12:42-43)

II. My marriage relationship must reflect the character of God

- A. Jesus describes His relationship with us by using marriage! (Eph 5:25-27)
 - 1. Everything we have studied about God should now become the building blocks for our home. Holiness, zealous love, righteous anger and longsuffering should be reflected in our character.
 - 2. How did Jesus manifest the character of God? <u>He was a servant</u>. (Mk 10:45; Mt 20:27-28)
- B. The home is a place to serve others. (Prov 31:10-12)
 - 1. This is why worldliness cannot work in the home! Marriage is for three.
 - 2. When we raise children to be friends of the world then they will not be good mates.
 - 3. What a great place the home is when *filled with faith and service*. It becomes a place for healing, learning and praise.
- C. Do you look out to your mates needs first? (1 Cor 7:3-5)
 - 1. I am so glad to be needed and to be able to serve. This is real fulfillment in life!

- 2. There is no greater joy than to look back on your life and see unselfish service. (Phil 2:17-18)
- 3. To be a servant <u>I must get out of myself</u>. Let us look to the example of Jesus! (2 Cor 8:9; Lk 9:26-27)
- 4. I have found great personal strength in remembering the service of my own parents.
- D. We need husbands and wives standing in God's ways. (Heb 12:2-4)
 - 1. We need men who are men. They will stand and take responsibility. They will lead. (Eph 6:4)
 - 2. We need women who will put their homes as their first priority. (Titus 2:4-5)
 - 3. You will be out of step with the worldly. Your children will bless you for it.

III. The home is where we introduce our children to God

- A. It is very sobering when you realize that your child's <u>first impression of God</u> will come <u>from what he sees in you</u>. Think about it.
 - 1. Those from good homes can understand God as a father. (Heb 12:6-7)
 - 2. God also likened Himself to a mother with her children.
- B. It starts with our knowledge of God! (Deut 6:4-6)
 - 1. Consider the kind of commitment it will take. (Deut 6:7-9)
 - 2. A godly parent will find a thousand ways to teach their children.
 - 3. Are you a parent? You are a teacher. Be the best you can be.
 - 4. My brother and I were deeply impressed by the faith of our mother. (2 Tim 1:5)
- C. Satan seeks to pervert the image of the one true God. (Jn 8:44)
 - 1. Do you have these kinds of conversations with your children? Do you ever talk about the character of God? If you won't *then Satan will*.
 - 3. When good things come into our home let's talk about God! Is your home <u>a house of praise</u>? (Ps 28:6-7)
- D. We continually seek wisdom in how we lead our children.
 - 1. Some of the greatest opportunity for growth comes <u>when our children suffer</u>. If I was hurting I would call out for "daddy" or "mama!"
 - 2. The home should be like God who will help us heal. (Heb 12:9, 12-13)
 - 3. In my home my occasion for hurting was also an occasion to gain wisdom. Sometimes *the hurting came from my parents* so that I might learn! (Prov 1:8, 10, 15; 2:1)
- E. You children will know if you really know God.
 - 1. How do you think Solomon viewed the last words of his father David? (1 Chron 28:9)
 - 2. Our children *will know when we mean it*. Also we can reflect God's glory in our lives for the great benefit of our children.
 - 3. The future of the church will be determined by how we conduct our homes.
 - 4. What will be your thoughts on your death bed?

Conclusion: May we all be blessed by the powerful knowledge of our great God!