

## Come let us Grow Together: Gaining Doctrinal Knowledge

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding in things pertaining to God.

Isaiah 28:9-10

9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

This is so important to understand. The Prophet Isaiah is teaching us whom the Lord will teach knowledge and whom he shall make to understand doctrine. The Prophet then reveals to us how the Word of God is set up and how we gain doctrinal knowledge. “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little”.

A precept is a general rule regulating thought or behavior. In this case it is referring to the commandments of God the Law. But this doctrinal knowledge is gained precept upon precept. Meaning one commandment upon another, one commandment upon another. Line upon line, line upon line meaning we gain this doctrinal knowledge from one scripture to another from one scripture to another. Gaining this doctrinal knowledge here a little and there a little meaning it comes over time and over the course of studying from one book or chapter to another.

This is the key to gaining doctrinal knowledge.

So what approach should one take to begin gaining this doctrinal knowledge. First remember that you must be weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. This means that you must not be a babe in the Lord. The babe in the Lord needs to be Bible studied with and instructed in the paths of righteousness.

For those who are no longer babes and who have a good doctrinal foundation and desire to grow spiritually as well as doctrinally in the Word of God the first thing one should do is to begin to pray that God will open up your understanding to the Word of God and help you to have a greater desire to learn of Him.

Begin to pray and ask the Lord for the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. Even if you believe you do have the knowledge of him begin to pray this prayer anyway because there is so much more to gain from the many scriptures that pertain to our God. Begin asking the Lord to increase your wisdom, knowledge and understanding in all things pertaining to God. Pray these prayers every day. Ask the Lord to increase your ability to learn doctrinal knowledge and ask him to open up your retaining levels that you might be able to retain the Word of God. Also pray that God will give you the ability to witness this gospel to others. Remember our God

is a God who will reward the diligent seeker so pray that the Lord will give you diligence in studying the Word of God.

Change your study habits.

For those just beginning to understand what I am speaking of, start out with the New Testament in your studying. The reason for this is because we are under the New Testament Covenant and you are desiring to gain doctrinal understanding. You must increase your study time. Let me make some suggestions. For those who do not yet know the gospels and the book of Acts well, this is the place to start for you. However, set your goal to read each book within one week. Each week reading the next book until you have read all 5 of these books. The reason why is because you are gaining doctrinal knowledge here a little and there a little. You will begin to see the similarities in the gospels as well as gaining a deeper look at the overall picture because it is fresh in your mind.

For those of you who already know the book of Acts and the Gospels well, the epistles is the place to start for you. These books are very short in many cases so you can read several a day. But when you first start, consider reading the book of Romans, Galatians and James. These books have much to teach concerning the law and the liberty in Christ Jesus that has set us free from the law of sin and death. Also be sure to read the book of Ephesians and Colossians together to get a better look at the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ. There is much in regards to this mystery and this is why you are praying for the spirit of revelation and the knowledge of him.

Be sure to read the books of Romans through Jude in no more than two weeks. This will really have the Word fresh in your mind and you will begin to see many similarities of topics. This is precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.

When you have finished this for your first time in this manner of study its time to switch to the gospels and the book of Acts for those who started with the epistles or for those who started with the gospels and the book of Acts switch to the epistles.

When you have completed the entire New Testament not including the book of Revelation, then it is time to start this process over, but this time begin to take notes. Notes on whatever particular topics stood out to you during the course of your study. In so doing you begin to learn more on this subject precept upon precept and line upon line and thus you begin to gain a deeper doctrinal understanding.

The notes you are taking are just logging down scripture verses that speak on the topic or topics you are searching out. Do not look to books for this help. Take the time to do this for yourself!! This is where the learning process for you really begins to take deeper roots because you have searched it out for yourself and see it for yourself in the context that it was spoken in. This will help you to be able to share it back with others as well because you have brought the scriptures to light that speaks on a particular subject and have reinforced them in your mind due to the manner in which you have studied them out. Also while you were taking these notes you once

again went through the New Testament and this has allowed you to begin to take notice of more similarities, as well as reinforcing what you already knew, while letting you begin to see the many other scriptures that allude to those subjects that you may not have been aware of.

For example. If one desires to gain a deeper doctrinal understanding of the baptism, then one needs to log all the scriptures speaking on baptism and then study these scriptural passages together and you will then begin to gain doctrinal knowledge on this subject. You will also begin to take notice of other passages of scriptures that allude to the baptism as well as other subjects that are directly connected to the baptism as you continue to read through the New Testament.

Over time your understanding of the Word of God will increase greatly. After you have developed a great understanding of the New Testament then begin to look at the Old Testament. But remember the Old Testament law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ. Study the Old Testament out but don't get lost in it with it's histories and genealogies and things of this nature, but rather begin to see the prophecies concerning Christ and the seed that was to come and learn why it was that the gentiles were grafted into the good olive tree. This should be your beginning focus of the Old Testament as well as beginning to take notice of the many prophecies concerning the end of days. This will begin to prepare you to better understand the book of Revelation when that time comes.