[PhI 3:10-11 KJV] 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Most people who are not serving the Lord think life revolves around them. The world teaches us that we are the center focus of our lives. We should focus on what makes us happy, what makes us feel safe, and what seems right. <u>Jesus did not live that example and does not want us to follow that path</u>. **How well do you know him?**

Bob Hoekstra said, "We can talk about the resurrection of Jesus, but behave as though it were not an actual reality for Christian living. We can be mistaken, "not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God."

Two reasons we should want to know him more.

Reason 1: The more you know, the more you grow.

Jesus is the light of the world.

[Jhn 8:12 KJV] 12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

[Jhn 9:5 KJV] 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

Now, [Mat 5:14 KJV] 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

[2Co 4:3-4 KJV] 3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Reason 2: The more you grow, the more you trust.

[Mat 12:21 KJV] 21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

[Rom 15:12 KJV] 12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

[2Sa 22:2-3 KJV] 2 And he said, The LORD [is] my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; 3 The God of my rock; in him will I trust: [he is] my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.

I want to know about his love for me. He put his Love in action.

[Jhn 15:13-17 KJV] 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. 16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.

We need to know, He taught us how to love others and ourselves.

[Mar 12:29-31 NKJV] 29 Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments [is]: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. 30 'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart,

with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This [is] the first commandment. 31 And the second [is] like, [namely] this, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.** There is none other commandment greater than these.

We need to know His view on condemnation. He doesn't want us to condemn others by looking down on them and judging them. He did not speak condemnation. He obeyed His Father and that brought condemnation like Noah's obedience in building the ark.

[Luk 6:36-37 KJV] 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. 37 Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:

Woman taken in adultery. Where was the man? [Jhn 8:5-11 KJV] 5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? 6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with [his] finger wrote on the ground, [as though he heard them not]. 7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. 9 And they which heard [it], being convicted by [their own] conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, [even] unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? 11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

[Rom 8:33-35 NKJV] 33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? [It is] God who justifies. 34 Who [is] he who condemns? [It is] Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? [Shall] tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

[Heb 11:7 KJV] 7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

We need to know His view on judgment. He doesn't want us to judge others except in righteousness. He didn't judge those who did not believe him.

[Luk 6:41-42 KJV] 41 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 42 Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.

[Jhn 12:47 KJV] 47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

We need to know the power of His Grace. His Grace is sufficient. He is filled with grace and truth.

[Jhn 1:14, 17 NKJV] 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. ... 17 For the law was given through Moses, [but] grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

[2Co 12:7-9 NKJV] 7 And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. 8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

We need to know He wants to bless us when we bless others.

[Luk 6:38 KJV] 38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

We need to know the character of Jesus. Jesus didn't tell his Father what he would do to save us, he yielded himself to his Father's will.

[Luk 22:42 KJV] 42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

Adrian Rogers says what if my hand said to me, "Good morning, Mr. Rogers. I have some plans today. I'm going to scratch your ear, I'm going to shave you, I'm going to take a pen and write some words for you, and I'm going to shake some hands for you." I'd say, "I don't want you to have any plans of your own. Just be there." I would be afraid of that thing!

So many times, we're telling Jesus what we're going to do for Him. He doesn't want us to do anything for Him. **Does that surprise you?** He wants to do something through you. Your body is here to minister to you! Our purpose as followers of Jesus is to hear what the head says and to do it. That's what we're here to do. And therefore, we must listen to what our Lord is saying. We are to minister to Him.

We need to know Jesus is in control. Jesus created the universe and holds all things together. He is the vine.

[Col 1:16-17 KJV] 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

[Jhn 15:5 KJV] 5 I am the vine, ye [are] the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

We need to know what Jesus focused on. Where is your focus? Don't let your actions go against your words.

[Luk 6:46 KJV] 46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

[Jhn 4:34 KJV] 34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

[Mat 7:21 KJV] 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

[Mat 12:50 KJV] 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Works of the Holy Spirit

He will reprove.

[Jhn 16:8-11 KJV] 8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 Of sin, because they believe not on me; 10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; 11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

He will teach Us.

[Jhn 14:26 KJV] 26 But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

[1Co 2:13 KJV] 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

He will testify of Jesus From the Scriptures

[Jhn 5:39 KJV] 39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

[Jhn 15:26 KJV] 26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, [even] the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

He will reveal to us.

[Luk 2:26 KJV] 26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

He enables us.

[Luk 2:26 KJV] 26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

[Act 1:2, 8 KJV] 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: ... 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

[Heb 2:4 KJV] 4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

[2Pe 1:21 KJV] 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost.

He is the promise sent by the Father. Yet He gives us gifts.

[Act 2:33 KJV] 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

[Heb 2:4 KJV] 4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

The Holy Ghost is also a witness to the resurrection. He is given to us that obey him.

[Act 5:32 KJV] 32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and [so is] also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

He is our guide.

[Act 13:2, 4 KJV] 2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. ... 4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

[Act 15:28 KJV] 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

[Act 16:6 KJV] 6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,