

MOVING ON - KNOWING CHRIST For Married Couples

WORSHIP (15 MINS)

Venue: Home gatherings

Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.

Venue: Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or Via Online,

Testimonies: **"What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week?"**Opening Prayer: Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal to us how to know Christ in a deeper way.

WELCOME (15 MINS)

Welcome guests/first-time visitors.

Memory Verse for the week: Matthew 18: 22

Ice-breaker Q: With all the distractions and busyness of our lives (e.g., social media, pursuit of wealth, self-love, etc.), how do we prioritize our spiritual growth (married life, family, work, spiritual growth, serving the Lord, etc.) in our daily routine?

WORD(30-45 MINS) Text: Philippians 3:10-14

Intro:

1. Paul had a clear goal in life – vv. 10-11

The Apostle Paul's ultimate goal in life was to fully know who Christ is! "Know" in Greek is "ginóskō," which means "to know, especially through personal experience or encounter." This involves experiencing the power of His resurrection and understanding the purpose of His resurrection, which proves that Jesus is the only Savior of the world who paid the ultimate price for our redemption.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What do you believe is your ultimate goal in your marriage and spiritual life?
- 2. In what ways can you both encourage each other to pursue knowing Christ more deeply?
- 3. Are there any "fleeting (temporary) pursuits" (goals of less eternal value) in your lives that you need to let go of to focus on your relationship with God and each other?

Application: Before we can move beyond "being stuck," we first need to know Jesus Christ. Everything starts with knowing Him. When we discover Christ as Lord and Savior, we begin heading in the right direction and stop going around in circles—chasing temporary pleasures, wealth, fame, and other things that don't hold true value.

2. Paul didn't settle for anything less than the fullness of God's call - vv. 12

Paul is saying in this verse, "I am aggressively chasing, like a hunter; I am earnestly desiring what Christ has for me!" Jesus Christ didn't just die on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins for us to stop with that understanding. We are all called by God to know Christ and to make Him known, a calling we all share.

- 1. How do you define success in your relationship with God and each other?
- 2. In your marriage, are you settling for just "good enough" or do you want to pursue God's plan and purpose for your relationship?

Leader's Tips:

- S Sensitivity. No one should feel left out.
- P Participation is encouraged.
- A Acknowledge. Make guests feel welcomed.
- C Confidentiality. What is shared stays in the group.
- E Encouragement. Be a blessing to one another.

3. Paul was relentless in His heavenly pursuit – vv.13-14

When Paul surrendered his life to Christ, he went through a lot but he didn't allow hardship to stop him from pursuing his Christ. This was Paul's relentless pursuit, to fully know Christ to the very end. Nothing can stop him.

- 1. We live in a world of many distractions (e.g., pursuit of success, wealth, temporary pleasures) that can divert us from our true goal knowing Christ, what practical things can we do to overcome these distractions? What does it mean for you as a couple to pursue heavenly things in your everyday lives?
- What practical steps can you take this week to ensure both you and your spouse are actively pursuing your relationship with Christ?.

Reflection (10 mins)

Q: Is there goal or pursuit that you as a couple need to surrender to Christ that you think is hindering you in your pursuit of God's plan and purpose for your lives?

Q: What do you think the Lord wants you as a couple to pursue as far as your life goals, your future and your family life is concerned? Conclusion: Many of us may find ourselves in a state of spiritual stagnation today...asking.. is there more to life than this? If you have not yet surrendered your life to Christ as your Lord and Savior, today is a new beginning to discover God's amazing plan and purpose for your life. Knowing Christ is a journey. May we all continue to press on in knowing Christ and making Him known as our ultimate goal in life. Let us pray.

What is your take-away from this lesson?

WORK: The Challenge (15 mins.)

- P- Pray for one another. Ask "what can I pray for you?"
- **R-Remin**d to invite a friend on the next gathering.
- **A- Apply** the message during the week.
- **Y- Yearn** to share your faith with someone during the week.