

Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Returning to Our Roots

The Value of Knowing the Scoop

1 TIMOTHY 4:1–6; 1 PETER 3:13–16



The Heart of the Matter

Encouraging the disheartened is important for a body of Christians. Enduring tough times is too. And worshiping is equally essential. A church needs all three . . . but a ministry is incomplete unless there is also the presence of learning. Healthy, vibrant flocks are kept in that condition by a continual emphasis on the discovery of new truth as well as the review of old truths. Such emphases give our faith stability and substance. Growing Christians are always learning, probing, and pursuing an ever-increasing knowledge of Scripture as well as an ever-enlarging knowledge of the Lord Himself. As we shall see, learning includes an awareness of the objective doctrines as well as the practical side of putting such knowledge into action.



Discovering the Way

1. Ignorance Is Not Bliss (1 Peter 3:13–16)

Ignorance in the realm of general knowledge is nothing to be proud of. This is especially true of ignorance of spiritual knowledge.

2. Sound Doctrine Is Invaluable (1 Timothy 4:1–6)

In this passage, Paul provided a warning and reasons for the warning, stressed knowledge and faith, and encouraged the right application of words and doctrine.

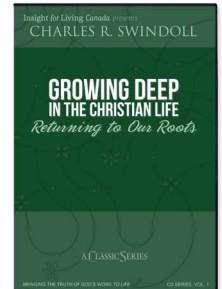


Starting Your Journey

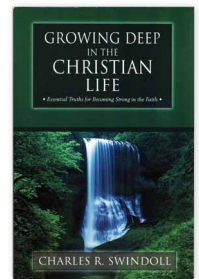
Knowledge can be dangerous when it lacks scriptural support, when it becomes an end in itself, when it isn't balanced by love and grace, and when it remains theoretical and not practical.



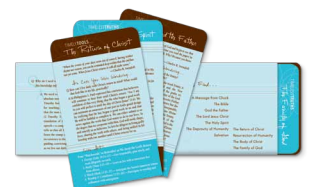
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