

This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD. Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NIV)

Know Me

Do you want to know me? Yes Lord, I want to understand and know you. I don't want to know you a little bit. It is my hope and dream and desire and goal and prayer that I will come to know you intimately. I want to walk through life with you. I want to hear your voice. I want to follow you to where you lead me. I want to do what you ask of me. **This is quite a change within you.** Yes, at one time I had very different priorities. You might have heard or seen me boasting in my wisdom or strength or maybe even in my riches. **I did.** Oddly enough, I'm not sure how any of those could have ever been my boast, I had so little of any of them. Nevertheless, I still placed my faith in myself. I trusted in my own wisdom, strength, and riches. What foolishness. There is no surer road to discouragement and defeat and depression than in relying on oneself. That was me. That is what I did. That is how I lived. **What happened? What turned your life around?** You turned my life around. You showed me the foolishness of my own ways. You brought me to yourself. You forgave my sin. You cleansed my unrighteous. You filled me with your Spirit. You gave me a new life to live. You caused me to hunger for you. You allowed to taste of your kindness and mercy and love. You drew me into a relationship with you. You lavished me with your love. You poured out your blessing on me. I now love you because you first loved me. Now, because I love you, I want to live in ways that delight you. **What delights me?** My thinking and speaking and acting like you brings you delight. My living as you lived brings you delight. My exercising kindness, justice, and righteousness, as you do, brings you delight. My bearing fruit for your kingdom and bringing glory to your name delights you. My living in an intimate relationship with you brings you delight. **Yes, these all bring me delight.** Me too. I love to live in your delight. **That is very good.**

Lord, it is my desire, goal, and prayer to come to understand and know you. Nothing is a close second. I will never boast in wisdom or strength or riches. They will always fail me. As I come to understand and know you, help me to live in ways that will delight you. Amen

The Sacramental Life *Understands And Knows Me*

This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

NIV Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Truly Know Me And Understand*

This is what the LORD says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken!

NLT Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understand And Know Me*

Thus says the LORD: Do not let the wise boast in their wisdom, do not let the mighty boast in their might, do not let the wealthy boast in their wealth; but let those who boast boast in this, that they understand and know me, that I am the LORD; I act with steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I delight, says the LORD.

NRSV Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understands And Knows Me*

Thus says the Lord: Let not the wise and skillful person glory and boast in his wisdom and skill; let not the mighty and powerful person glory and boast in his strength and power; let not the person who is rich [in physical gratification and earthly wealth] glory and boast in his [temporal satisfactions and earthly] riches; But let him who glories glory in this: that he understands and knows Me [personally and practically, directly discerning and recognizing My character], that I am the Lord, Who practices loving-kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I delight, says the Lord.

AMP Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understands And Knows Me*

Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.

NASB Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understands And Knows Me*

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."

ESV Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understands And Knows Me*

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD.

NKJV Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understand And Know Me*

GOD's Message: "Don't let the wise brag of their wisdom. Don't let heroes brag of their exploits. Don't let the rich brag of their riches. If you brag, brag of this and this only: That you understand and know me. I'm GOD, and I act in loyal love. I do what's right and set things right and fair, and delight in those who do the same things. These are my trademarks." GOD's Decree.

MSG Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Truly Know Me And Understand*

The Lord says: "Let not the wise man bask in his wisdom, nor the mighty man in his might, nor the rich man in his riches. Let them boast in this alone: That they truly know me, and understand that I am the Lord of justice and of righteousness whose love is steadfast; and that I love to be this way.

TLB Jeremiah 9:23-24

The Sacramental Life *Understands And Knows Me*

This is what the LORD says: "The wise must not brag about their wisdom. The strong must not brag about their strength. The rich must not brag about their money. But if someone wants to brag, let him brag that he understands and knows me. Let him brag that I am the LORD, and that I am kind and fair, and that I do things that are right on earth. This kind of bragging pleases me," says the LORD.

NCV Jeremiah 9:23-24

Understands And Knows Me Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

The Sacramental Life – Jeremiah 9:23-24

In Context: Read Jeremiah 9

Begin With Prayer: *Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.*

Meditating On God's Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

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Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

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Praying The Scripture: *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Lord, it is my desire, goal, and prayer to come to understand and know you. Nothing is a close second. I will never boast in wisdom or strength or riches. They will always fail me. As I come to understand and know you, help me to live in ways that will delight you. Amen

What It Means: *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

Why would it be foolish to boast in your wisdom, strength, or riches?

Why must you never rely on are place your hope in your own wisdom, strength, or riches?

Why will relying on your wisdom, strength, or riches always lead to disappointment and regret?

How have you made it your desire, goal, and prayer to understand and know the Lord?

How is the Lord helping you to come to understand and know Him?

How is understanding and knowing the Lord helping you to live in ways that delight Him?

How is understanding and knowing the Lord causing you to exercise kindness, justice, and righteousness?

Living It Out: *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Make it your desire, goal, and prayer to come to understand and know the Lord.

Seeing It Happen: *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that you will be able to live in ways that delight the Lord as you come to understand and know Him.

Get Ready To Share: *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has helped you to come to understand and know Him.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you understand and know the Lord so you can live in ways that delight Him.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, help me to understand and know you so I can live in ways that delight you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I understand and know you so I can live in ways that delight you today?
