

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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**May 6, 2023 – Day 9 Pursuing Holiness – Myra Ilagan**

## ***Knowing God***

Then you will understand the fear of the Lord, And find the knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:5 NKJV

Knowing God is not something we can put off for our entire lives and then rush through in a few days. We remember the parable of the ten virgins where they took extra oil with their lamps while the foolish virgins took no oil with them. At midnight, when they heard that the bridegroom is coming, the foolish virgins went out to buy the oil and they were left out. The wise virgins, who had cultivated the oil of intimacy while waiting for the bridegroom, went in with the bridegroom to the wedding.

Knowing God intimately is a journey and it takes time. We must understand Him to know Him.

What does it mean to understand Him? To understand someone involves much more than mental comprehension. Mentally comprehending that someone is a person or that they exist does not mean you understand them. When we really understand someone, we understand their thoughts, emotions, personality. We know about their past; we know about their future plans. We have discovered what motivates them, what delights them, what moves them. We know their likes and dislikes, their hopes and dreams. We know what makes them laugh and what makes them weep. And we are impacted by our awareness of them in their entirety. The same is true with God and understanding of Him. David was one who understood the heart of God. He was the number one student of God's emotions.

The fear of the Lord comes from the awareness that God sees the real me. We so easily make the mistake of basing our success on what others say about us and how well we seem to be doing in comparison to everyone else at church, but God doesn't evaluate us on those criteria. He evaluates us on what is working on the inside of us. Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7).

And so that is why it is important we let the Word penetrate our hearts and change us despite the pain. As our lives are brought into the light, we repent and we embrace God's plan for how to live our lives. We stop living for the praise of men and start living for God. Then we will find ourselves desiring to live in righteousness for God and God alone. Our whole lives begin to change. Our prayer lives, giving, conversations become holy. Our thoughts, words, and deeds become holy. Our very being becomes holy because we have become fully aware of God in our lives. We have become fully aware that ALL [nothing left] is for His glory.