*May 6, 2018 / Ordination Service*

**“That You May Know Him Better”**

**Four Things God Wants You To Know**

***Ephesians 1:17-23; 3:14-21***

***Ephesians 1:15-23 NIV -****For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, 16****I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.****17****I keep asking*** *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the* ***Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.****18****I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope*** *to which he has called you,* ***the riches of his glorious inheritance****in his holy people, 19and his* ***incomparably great power*** *for us who believe. That power is the same as* ***the mighty strength****20he* ***exerted when he raised Christ from the dead****and* ***seated him at his right hand*** *in the heavenly realms, 21****far above******all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come****. 22And* ***God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church****, 23which is* ***his body, the fullness of him*** *who fills everything in every way.*

***Ephesians 3:14-21 NIV*** *-* ***For this reason I kneel before the Father,****15from whom every* ***family in heaven and on earth*** *derives its name. 16I pray that* ***out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power****through his Spirit in your inner being, 17so that* ***Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.*** *And I pray that you, being* ***rooted****and* ***established******in love,*** *18may have* ***power****,* ***together*** *with all the Lord’s holy people,* ***to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,****19and* ***to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.20Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,*** *21****to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations****, for ever and ever! Amen.*

1. **Know .**
* ***Ephesians 1:17-19***

***John 14:6 TPT -*** *Jesus explained,****“I am the Way, I am the Truth,******and I am the Life. No one comes next to the Father******except through union with me.******To know me is to know my Father too.”***

***Philippians 3:10-12 AMP -*** *…So****that I may know Him*** *[****experientially****, becoming more thoroughly acquainted with Him,* ***understanding*** *the remarkable wonders of His Person more completely] and [in that same way experience] the* ***power of His resurrection*** *[which overflows and is active in believers], and [that I may share] the* ***fellowship of His sufferings****, by being continually conformed [inwardly into His likeness even] to His death [dying as He did];****11****so that I may attain to the resurrection [that will raise me] from the dead.* ***12****Not that I have already obtained it [this goal of being Christlike] or have already been made perfect, but* ***I actively press on so that I may take hold of that [perfection] for which Christ Jesus took hold of me and made me His own****.*

1. **Know in Christ.**
* ***Ephesians 1:18-23***

***John 3:28, 30 NKJV -*** *You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent before Him…’****30He must increase, but I must decrease.***

***John 13:3-5 TPT -*** *Now* ***Jesus was fully aware that the Father had placed all things under his control****, for he had come from God and was about to go back to be with him.****4****So* ***he got up from the meal and took off his outer robe, and took a towel and wrapped it around his waist****.****5****Then he poured water into a basin and* ***began to wash the disciples’ dirty feet*** *and dry them with his towel.*

1. **Know God’s us.**
* ***Ephesians 3:17-18***

***John 3:16-17 VOICE -*** *For* ***God expressed His love for the world*** *in this way:* ***He gave His only Son so that whoever believes in Him will not face everlasting destruction, but will have everlasting life****.****17****Here’s the point. God didn’t send His Son into the world to judge it; instead,* ***He is here to rescue a world headed toward certain destruction****.*

***1 John 3:1 VOICE - Consider the kind of extravagant love the Father has lavished on us****—He calls us children of God! It’s true; we are His beloved children. And in the same way the world didn’t recognize Him, the world does not recognize us either.*

***Philippians 1:9-11 NLT -*** *I pray that* ***your love will overflow more and more****, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.****10****For* ***I want you to understand what really matters****, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ’s return.****11****May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.*

1. **Know God’s us.**
* ***Ephesians 3:19-21***

***Ephesians 3:20 AMP*** *- Now* ***to Him******Who****, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us,* ***is able to*** *[carry out His purpose and]* ***do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]--***

***Philippians 4:13 NIV - I can do all things through Christ*** *who strengthens me.*

***Philippians 4:12-13 TPT -*** *I know what it means to lack, and I know what it means to experience overwhelming abundance. For I’m trained in the secret of overcoming all things, whether in fullness or in hunger. 13 And I find that* ***the strength of Christ’s explosive power infuses me to conquer every difficulty.***

***Philippians 4:13 AMP -******I can do all things*** *[which* ***He has called me to do****] through* ***Him who******strengthens and empowers me*** *[to* ***fulfill His purpose****—****I am self-sufficient in Christ’s sufficiency****; I am ready for* ***anything*** *and* ***equal******to******anything******through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.****]*

***Philippians 1:3-6 NIV -*** *I thank my God every time I remember you.****4****In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with* ***joy 5****because of* ***your partnership in the gospel*** *from the first day until now,* ***6****being* ***confident*** *of this, that* ***he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.***