

Determined to Grow

4.1.2020

Main Idea: To grow in our faith, we must be committed to studying God's Word.

Now Ezra had determined in his heart to study the law of the Lord, obey it, and teach its statutes and ordinances in Israel.

—Ezra 7.10 (CSB)

Many of us have discovered that we have some extra time on our hands. Since things have slowed down, we have time to do things that we wouldn't normally do (exercise, read, clean, etc.). Personally, I have begun to incorporate different exercises into my daily routine. For instance, every morning and evening, I do stretches, sit-ups, and push-ups. In the morning, I read my Bible, drink coffee, get ready, wash dishes, and then come to the office. I do these things because I recognize that there is an immediate benefit (cleanliness when I wash dishes) and a long-term benefit (strengthened muscles when I exercise).

Just as there is a tangible benefit for keeping to a routine, there is also a "benefit" to keeping a spiritual routine. As we pursue the Kingdom of God and his righteousness (Matthew 6.33), we must be determined to "study the Law of the Lord, obey it, and teach it" (Ezra 7.10). As we do these things, we will see growth in our walk with the Lord Jesus. The growth may not be noticeable in the short-term, but it is always notable in the long term.

Friend, don't neglect the opportunity for growth in this season. Be like Ezra and make the determination "in your heart" to study, obey, and teach the Word of God.

For Reflection...

- Have you been committed to growing in your relationship with Jesus or have you been sitting back to see what happens?
- What can you do to grow in your walk with Jesus?

Faith is like a muscle...it only gets stronger as you work it.

-Justin Knight



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