

# Values Matter Discovery Starters

## We Want to Know God

### 1. KNOW GOD

YWAM is committed to know God, His nature, His character and His ways as revealed in the Bible, the inspired and authoritative Word of God. We seek to reflect who He is in every aspect of our lives and ministry. The automatic overflow of knowing and enjoying fellowship with God is a desire to share Him with others.

[2Ki 19:19](#); [Job 42:5](#); [Psa 46:10](#); [Psa 103:7-13](#); [Jer 9:23-24](#);  
[Hos 6:3](#); [Joh 17:3](#); [Eph 1:16-17](#); [Php 3:7-11](#); [1Jo 2:4-6](#)

### Value #1 – Know God: Insatiable Hunger

#### Biblical Foundation:

*I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him... I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us (Php 3:7-14).*

#### Discovery Starter:

Chariots of Fire is an Oscar-winning movie that focuses on the lives of two British track stars who competed in the 1924 Olympics in Paris, France: Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell. The inspirational drama is punctuated with pulsating montages of the athletes preparing for every aspect of the race. It's intense. They are fighting for every inch of the track, trying to shave off a few more milliseconds from their time. They are intent on just one thing: winning the prize at the end of the race. Paul uses similarly dramatic language to describe his unquenchable passion to know God more and more.

Paul wrote these words from jail in Rome in the early to mid 60s. At that point he'd been following Jesus for nearly three decades. Everything in the book of Acts has already occurred. Three amazing missionary trips. The Gospel powerfully proclaimed.

Churches planted. Miracles performed. Leaders disciplined. Letters written: Galatians and the letters to the churches in Thessalonica, Corinth, and Rome – all this was in his past. But none of these things could be compared to the driving passion of his life: knowing God more! He says that compared to knowing Christ Jesus everything else is *skubala*, which is delicately translated “garbage.” In Greek it means “dung” with the force of a four-letter exclamation. Compared to knowing Jesus, everything else is nothing but a pile of s... *skubala*! Do you think he got the attention of the Christians in Philippi?

He got mine. Paul’s passionate pursuit of God echoes Hosea’s insatiable hunger, when – eight centuries earlier – he cried out, “*Oh, that we might know the LORD! Let us press on to know him*” (Hos 6:3). If after all Paul had accomplished, the thing that still drove him was his passion for an ever deepening knowledge of God, how much more should it drive me? Paul’s relationship with God was anything but stale or sterile. His passion to know God was unquenchable. This inspires me to press on for more of God. I don’t want to settle for the status quo. I want to live hungry for God. I want more intimacy with him. How about you?

### **Keep Going:**

Paul not only spoke of his passion to know God ever more intimately; he also prayed that the same would happen in the life of other followers of Jesus. At the time of imprisonment in Rome he prayed, “I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God” (Eph 1:16-17). Take time today to pray this prayer for yourself and for everyone God lays on your heart. May your intercession be that all would hunger insatiably to grow in the knowledge of God.

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