

## LG Discussion Questions

Being Obedient- John 13:17, 14:21, 15:5

March 21, 2010

Summary – We reformed and Presbyterian types have a tendency to prize knowledge and for good reason. We have a book and a Triune God to get to know – however, knowledge has its limitations, and can often be the basis of a number of false beliefs.

Danger: a false belief that the blessing is in the knowing- John 13:17

Danger: A false belief that knowledge can save you – Gnosticism – 1 John 2:3-6

Danger: A false belief that knowledge is the mark of maturity – Rev. 2:1-8

Danger: An arrogance that often results from knowledge – 1 Cor. 8:1 (devoid of love and faith)

Danger: A deception from being a hearer and not a doer - James 1:22

Jesus said the blessing is in the doing, not the knowing (John 13:17) – obedience to what we know brings great blessings to us and glorifies God in the world. We want to be a church that values obedience to what we know. We also want to have a biblical balance between head (knowledge), heart (emotions), and hand (obedient service in the world).

1. Do we agree that Presbyterian and Reformed types tend to be knowledge wonks? (Here's your rabbit trail: what's a wonk?) If so, why is that?
2. What's the most intoxicating, exciting Biblical teaching or nugget you have ever learned?
3. Gnosticism – see if anybody knows what that was or is (a 2<sup>nd</sup> rabbit trail for you) - was the notion that a secret knowledge was necessary for salvation, and only a few could have access to it. It is addressed in 1 John. Why is this heresy still around?
4. What keeps us from being more obedient?
5. Can you share an experience where obedience yielded blessing? (of revelation, intimacy, maturity)
6. What little yes or nos are giving you trouble? Is your challenge in the area of “macro: (big areas) or “micro” (small daily decisions) obedience ?
7. If you could consistently apply one command of Christ today, what would that be and why?
8. Do we know too much? Should we close our Bible studies and have Application and Accountability groups?
9. What is our hope for future obedience? How will we become more obedient in the days ahead?