

Learning Without Application Is Useless

I. Introduction:

A. Would you...?

1. ... Give pain medication to a dead person (**Ecclesiastes 9:10**)?
2. ... Create a god of wood and look to it for salvation (**Jeremiah 10:1-6**)?
3. ... Expect a field to bear fruit if not tended to (**Proverbs 24:30-34**)?

B. There is great importance in us learning (**Matthew 11:28-30** and **Luke 10:38-42**).

1. We are expected to obtain knowledge, wisdom, and understanding (**Proverbs 2:1-9** and **Proverbs 4:1-7**).
2. Is just learning the truth enough (**Ezekiel 33:30-33**)?

II. Body: What About Applying What We Learn (**Deuteronomy 5:1** and **James 1:18-27**)?

A. Knowledge is important (**Proverbs 19:2**, **Romans 15:14**, **Colossians 3:10**, and **II Peter 3:18**), but...

1. Do you live according to what you have learned (**Romans 2:1-3** and **Romans 2:17-29**)?
2. Can't you ever learn and never get anywhere (**II Timothy 3:1-7**)?
3. What is it when you know good and don't do it (**James 4:17**)?
4. We need to understand that there have always been those whom know the judgment of God, but choose not to obey Him (**Romans 1:18-32**).

B. After learning, we have to properly do something with that knowledge (**Matthew 7:21-27** and **Romans 2:13**).

1. After Jesus washed the disciples feet and taught them service and humility, what did He say (**John 13:17**)?
2. Hear, see, and what??? (**Philippians 4:9**)

C. Then there is the significance of continuation (**John 8:30-32** and **John 15:9-10**).

1. Starting off right isn't enough (**Matthew 13:20-22** and **Galatians 5:7-9**).
2. We have to hold on to the end (**Hebrews 3:1-14**).

D. Consider a few thoughts because knowledge can be dangerous (**I Corinthians 8:1**).

1. How many of us have known to defend the remembrance of the Lord's death on the first day of the week (**Acts 20:7**), but failed to understand that we should tarry for one another (**I Corinthians 11:23-33**)?
2. How many of us knew there was one body/kingdom/church (**Matthew 16:18**, **Ephesians 1:22-23**, **Ephesians 4:4**, and **Hebrews 12:22-28**), but were part of erring groups that did things that the church isn't authorized to such as "the social gospel" (**Romans 14:17**)?
3. How many of us exposed mechanical instrumental music as error (**Ephesians 5:19**), but sang songs we did not understand (**I Corinthians 14:15**) and even sang words that were false thus we taught error (**Colossians 3:16** and **Titus 2:1**)?
4. How many of us would poke at "denominational churches" for teaching doctrines of men, while all along practicing erring "church of Christ" traditions (**Colossians 2:6-8** and **Colossians 2:18-23**)? I.E. Pitch pipes, Sunday AM, PM, Wed. Night, VBS, Annual Gospel Meetings, Men's Meetings, "Brotherhood Publications", dress codes, fashion show mentality, preacher exaltation, 5 steps of salvation, coC bible class materials, miraculous prayer lists, church trustees, congregation votes on disciplinary actions, easy access church membership, church building idolatry, teaching/practicing personal preferences, etc.
5. Thus, knowing many of us have erred with having knowledge, how important is it for us all to be humble and make sure we are using our knowledge aright (**I Corinthians 10:12** and **II Timothy 2:15**)?

III. Conclusion: Fear God AND Keep His Commandments (**Ecclesiastes 12:8-14**).