

Abiding Through Understanding

DAVE D'ANGELO | YOUR KINGDOM COME WEEK 12

MATTHEW 7:15-23

Q. Which “many” do I fall into?

Fear & Anxiety

- Faith is how we get “up out of the rocking chair”
- Understanding is how we stay out of the rocking chair

Understanding

- mentioned 41 times in the gospels
- In Greek: to consider well, to take time and reflect upon with insight
- In English: communal, we need external help to bring insight

Fear = immediate, reaction

What if we brought Jesus’ words as insight to us so we could add His understanding to our fear?

“Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.” - Marie Curie

UNDERSTAND

1. What the will of God is, according to Jesus.

- Matthew 7:21, John 6:40
- Belief is at the baseline of God’s will.
- Luke 12:32
- Don’t wrestle with the idea of “am I one of the many?”. Ponder instead, “do I really believe?” Do you believe in your heart that Jesus is truly your Savior?
- How do I know if I believe? Would your life drastically changed if you stopped believing?
- My growing understanding: God’s love and eternal salvation are placed on me, not based on me.

2. Who the “Knower” is in this verse

- Do you desire for Jesus to know you?
- Jesus desires intimacy with us.
- Pursuit is the proof of desire.
- Grace is about not having to be cleaned up before we go to be with Him.
- “Abide” means to place our life somewhere, John 15:4-9
- Focus on where you’re aimed towards and your proximity with Jesus.
- My being with Jesus precedes my doing good for Jesus.

3. The fruit He’s talking about isn’t the work externally; it’s the work internally.

- It’s not about the work we do and/or results.
- Jesus is concerned with the heart inside, not the external works.
- Jesus’ job is to produce the fruit. Our job is to stay close and participate.

Practice gratitude. **Gratitude is the soil in which joy thrives.** Be thankful for God and who He is and the understanding He gives us, marked by freedom, not fear.

MATTHEW 6:9-13, ESV

Pray then like this:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

