

Pastor Ron Case
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“Being OK with Not Knowing”

**“If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.”
(1 Corinthians 8:2-3)**

Lust for Knowledge

Genesis 2:15-17 – (15) “The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. (16) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, (17) but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’”

Ecclesiastes 1:16-18 – (16) “I said in my heart, ‘I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.’ (17) And I applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind. (18) For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.”

Ecclesiastes 12:11-12 – (11) “The words of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings; they are given by one Shepherd. (12) My son, beware of anything beyond these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh.”

Do What You Know to Do, Leave the Rest to God

Mark 4:26-29 – (26) “And he said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. (27) He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. (28) The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. (29) But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

Don't Be a Religious Snob

1 Timothy 1:5-7 – (5) “The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. (6) Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, (7) desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.”

Be Content with Partial Understanding

1 Corinthians 13:12 – “For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.”

Be Careful with Forecasting

James 4:13-14, 16 – (13) “Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit’— (14) yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. (16) As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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