

BASIC TRAINING in ABIDING for the BELIEVER

◆ *Scripture Reading:*

◆ **II Peter 3:15-18**



INTRODUCTION

- ◆ The military recruits soldiers, sailors, and airmen for specific areas of service.
 - ◆ These recruits sign up for and are trained in specialized areas, but ALL begin by being trained in areas of basic skill and knowledge
- ◆ **BASIC TRAINING:**
 - ◆ Physical fitness, basic weapons proficiency, survival skills, etc

INTRODUCTION

- ◆ Our Lord provides specialized abilities called spiritual gifts to meet specific needs in the **Body of Christ – the Church** (Eph 4:11-13)
- ◆ He also provides specific opportunities for each believer to use his specialized ability (Eph 2:10)
- ◆ But ALL believers are provided basic knowledge and abilities called **THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT** (Gal 5:22-23)

INTRODUCTION

The Apostle John's writing provide the believer with much specific information about the earthly life and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ (Jn 21:25).

He also provided specific details concerning future events in the book of Revelations

But in John's epistles, he reveals basic truth that believers need to know intellectually and practically for their everyday Christ life:

BASIC TRAINING FOR THE BELIEVER

Two Kinds of Knowledge

◆ **Intellectual knowledge** (“head knowledge”)

- ◆ Illustration of auto mechanics reading manuals

- ◆ I John has 16 occurrences of this kind of knowledge

◆ **Practical knowledge** (experiential)

- ◆ Knowing by applying the head knowledge

- ◆ Illustration of auto mechanic doing the actual repair

- ◆ I Jn has 24 occurrences of this kind of knowledge

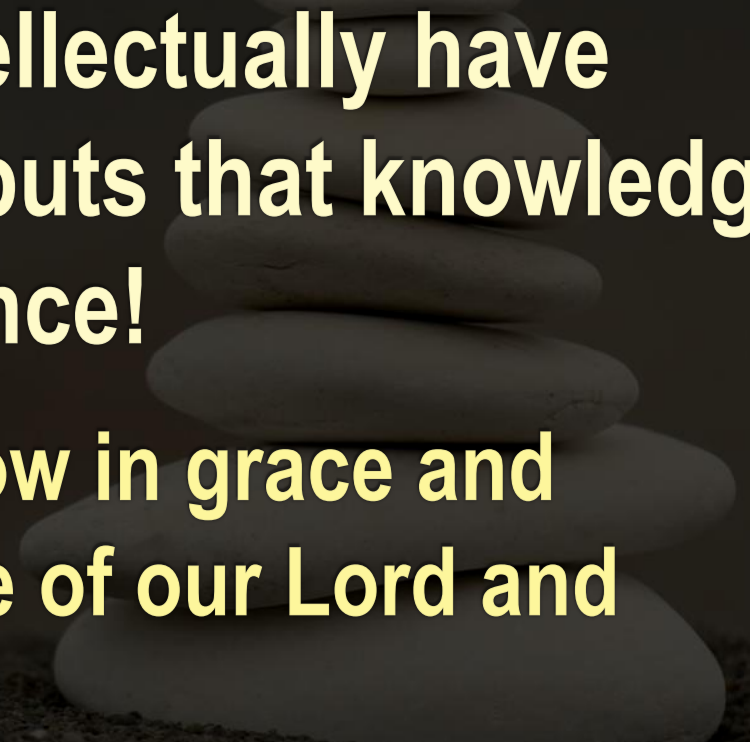
Examples of Basic Intellectual Knowledge for Believers

- ◇ Believer's potential to know all things that God has revealed to us – I Jn 2:20
- ◇ Believer's knowledge of the truth of the identity of Jesus Christ: He is God! – I Jn 2:21-22
- ◇ Believer's knowledge of HOW the Father loves us – I Jn 3:1

Examples of Basic Intellectual Knowledge for Believers (continued)

- ◇ Believer's knowledge of our future glorification – I Jn 3:2
- ◇ Believer's knowledge of the reason the Father sent His Son – I Jn 3:5, cf I Tim 1:15
- ◇ Believer's knowledge of their potential to sin (2:1)
 - ◇ But also, their inability to make sinning a habitual practice – I Jn 5:18

CONCLUSION

- ◆ **The Believer must intellectually have knowledge before he puts that knowledge into practice / experience!**
 - ◆ **II Peter 3:18 – “But grow in grace and experiential knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ”**
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- A stack of smooth, light-colored stones is positioned on the right side of the slide. The stones are stacked vertically, with the largest at the bottom and the smallest at the top. The background is dark and textured, possibly representing sand or gravel.