

D O O R

FOLLOW KNOW JOURNEY

WHEREVER WE ARE ON OUR JOURNEY,
WE WILL TAKE STEPS TOGETHER TO KNOW AND BECOME LIKE JESUS.

DAY 1

Read Jacob's Well purpose statement above. **What about it stands out to you?** What do you like about it? With what in it do you connect? **READ** Philippians 3:10-14. The apostle Paul describes his own journey to know and become like Jesus with words like 'pressing on' and 'straining toward what is ahead'. **How would you describe your own journey? Is it like circling a cul-de-sac? Is everything the same over and over again?** You think the scenery is changing, only to discover you're right back where you began! **Is it more like you've been on a trail and now consider yourself at the finish line? Do you mostly look back? Is it more like an adventure of discovery, at times having to press on, at times just holding on, but for the most part a steady progression forward?** **SPEND** time considering your own spiritual journey. Life is messy. All of us misstep and even take steps in the wrong direction. How we handle the times we get off track (or are knocked off track) is what matters most. **What kind of tool/process do you have in place to evaluate your journey and where you are? Do you have a plan for your own spiritual formation that guides your steps? Are there people in your life with whom you can share those challenges, disappointments, and victories? Do you have the kind of community in which those closest to you can speak truth and love to you when you go off track?** Walt Disney described his vision of Epcot Center as "never finished but always in the state of becoming." **What/who are you becoming?**

DAY 2

If the goal is to know and become like Jesus, how can we make that happen? At Jacob's Well we believe that by following Jesus and establishing his lifestyle/teaching into our daily lives, we're taking steps toward becoming people who think, feel, and act like Jesus. We call one another to actively incorporate these FIVE commitments into our lives: **WORSHIP * BELONG * GROW * SERVE * SHARE**. If we individually and collectively seek ways to live out these commitments, we can't help but become more and more like Jesus. **READ** Psalm 119:58-60. Take time to think and pray about the following questions asking God to give you discernment and insight as you "consider your ways." **What am I doing to know and become like Christ? Where am I on my journey of worship? Am I consistently taking time to participate in weekly worship services? Do I consistently re-center myself on God and His goodness? Am I giving Him my praise? My gratitude? How am I doing with BELONG? Do I have a place where I'm known? Where am I connected to other followers of Christ? Am I actively involved in a small group? Where am I on my GROW journey? What am I doing to personally connect daily with Jesus? What process of prayer, devotions, and study do I have in place to grow spiritually? How am I serving? Where am I serving others? Where am I using my gifts? Is there a place I could SERVE at Jacob's Well?**

My community? My family? Where am I on my SHARE journey? Am I able to connect my story to God's story when the opportunity arises? Do I take advantage of the power of invitation and invite others to Jacob's Well?
READ Philippians 1:9-11.

DAY 3-5

At JW we've developed the resource tool below to help identify where we are on our journey. Understanding where we are brings clarity and understanding to our lives and helps us know what steps to take next. **SET** aside time over the next few days to read and work through the remainder of this devotional. **GIVE** yourself time to honestly and carefully consider each step - to evaluate where you are. **CONSIDER** where you are spiritually, but also consider where you are in other areas of your life as it relates physically, emotionally, relationally, at your job, school, with your family, etc. **PRAY** for wisdom, insight and openness. **ASK** God to speak to you through this process. **READ** Ephesians 4:12-14.

the journey at the well



thirst



search



know



experience



depth

authentic community

THINK about each step: **What does it mean to THIRST?** To be aware of a longing, desire, or need for something often comes through frustration, pain, disappointment. In thirsting we come to a place where we ask ourselves "Is this all there is?" "Is this really as good as it gets?" Whether our thirst is related to our faith, our marriage, our jobs, or any other area of our lives, we need to allow ourselves to thirst before moving forward. Experiencing **THIRST** leads us to **SEARCH** out a better way. **SEARCH** is about beginning a process of honestly searching and seeking a better way or a new truth. **Where do you SEARCH? LOOK** at the FIVE commitments and discern if you've positioned yourself to search for God's truth in a safe place. As we **SEARCH** we consider: **Is there a group I should join? A book I should read? Someone I need to talk to? Something I need to stop doing or let go of? Something I need to start doing or make a part of my life?** We begin to **KNOW** after going through an honest process of searching, identifying, and embracing a better way or new truth. It's then when we actually do the things which lead to a better way of living - we stop judging others, forgive someone, and/or live within the budget we've put in place. As we consistently choose the better way, we **EXPERIENCE** God's presence in our lives and the benefits and blessings which result from living differently. We **EXPERIENCE** joy, freedom and breath within our life. We move into **DEPTH** as we consistently experience a better way to live. We begin thinking, feeling, and acting more like Jesus and realize we choose the better path, not simply because we know we should, but rather that's who we've become. Jesus lived a simple life, yet it was a life filled with great meaning and impact. While on His journey here on earth, He invited people to follow Him. He called them to live wisely and intelligently, using His life as a model. He challenged them to build their lives on a solid foundation, like building a house. Jesus' life and teachings are solid and unshakable even during the storms of life. **Where are you on your journey? What are your next steps?**

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