

THE KNOWABLE GOD

“What makes life worthwhile is having a big enough objective, something which catches our imagination and lays hold of our allegiance, and this the Christian has in a way that no other person has. For what higher, more exalted, and more compelling goal can there be than to know God?”

– J.I. Packer, Knowing God

A BETTER AGREEMENT

The New Covenant (agreement) is definitely **not the past**, but it's also **not quite the future**.

New through **relationship**. Internal vs. external
Exodus 24:12; 34:1; Galatians 4:6

New through **fellowship**. Devotion vs. animosity
Exodus 24:12; 34:1; Galatians 4:6

New through **intimacy**. Closeness vs. distance
Exodus 3:13; Leviticus 16:2; Exodus 19:23-24; Hebrews 10:19-20

New through **forgiveness**. Free vs. bound

A DIFFERENT AGREEMENT - DIFFERENT IN KIND

The old covenant suffered from **planned obsolescence**.

It was never meant to be permanent.

Just like the law, we can become obsolete through

- **Legalistic judgments**
- **Generational prejudice** (young or old)
- **Loss of purpose and priority**

Ephesians 4:22 suggests that even as new creatures, we may be tempted to live in obsolescence instead of new life. Where are you living today?

This is the last small group meeting of the quarter. They will start up again in April. Jot down a few thoughts of what your small group has meant to you and how you have grown through it.

If you're having small group dinner or potluck, here's a simple point of discussion that you can think about for a few minutes. Aaron was told that if he ever went behind the veil of the tabernacle at the wrong time, he would be struck down. That normal people like you and me could never go in. How would you feel?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This week we talked about living as though we lived under the old way instead of the new covenant. Read Ephesians 4:20 -24.

Jot down several steps or ideas that help one "put on the new self." How is that different that just deciding to do the right things?

2. Read Psalm 119:9-16
List some steps that you can take to have God's law "written on hearts of flesh" and not on external pages of paper. What will make the difference in each one between just following the ritual and real change?
3. Jim talked this week about some ways that we might become obsolete in our walk with God. What are some things that you tend to get a little legalistic about?
4. What do you do to overcome those personal issues?

Prayer Requests