NOTES

Scripture Refs
1 Cor. 2:14; 11:27–32; 2 Cor. 5:8; Eph. 4:8; Matt. 28:19–20; John 3:16–17; 16:13; Acts 1:8; Rom. 10:14; 1 John 5:16–21; Rev. 20:11–15

Reflection & Discussion

1. John closes his letter by repeating the words "We know."
    a. In a few sentences, explain the meaning and intent of that phrase ('*oida*' in Greek).
    b. Why is it important for believers to possess certainty about what God's Word says?

2. Consider the process of going from right learning to right living:
    a. Why is rich, thorough, and even repetitive study of God's Word so important?
    b. Describe the ministry of the Holy Spirit when it comes to making God's Word understandable.
    c. What reasons do believers often cite when it comes to not studying the Bible consistently and/or not studying it with depth?
    d. (EXTRA CREDIT) How would you respond to someone who says, "Church should be less doctrinal and more practical"?

3. Right living involves the application of true doctrine:
    a. What is the difference between knowing the right way to live, versus actually applying it?
    b. Describe a significant situation in your life where you faced a "fork in the road" (having to decide between yielding to the Spirit or yielding to the flesh). What happened? What lessons did you learn from it? How might you respond differently now?
    c. How can believers prepare themselves in advance to respond biblically to offenses, conflict, temptation, or suffering?