

INCREASE THROUGH REVELATION

Sermon Series : The Increase

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Scripture: 1 Cor 2:1-16

"If increase comes by trust, and trust comes by knowing God, and knowing God comes only by revelation, then we need revelation!"

Revelation Definitions:

- Secular: "A surprising and previously unknown fact, especially one that is made known in a dramatic way." (eg. "TaDa")
- Biblical: "An uncovering, a bringing to light of that which had been previously wholly hidden or only obscurely seen."

Two types of revelation:

- General: indirect and available to everyone (eg. reason, conscience, nature, moral sense). See Ps 19; Rom 1:20)
- Special: direct to an individual or a group (eg. dreams, visions, the life of Jesus, prophecy, miracles, Scripture, etc)

"General Revelation was never designed to teach us our obligation towards God or our proper relationship to him as our creator"

1. **Our Increase comes through Special Revelation**
(1 Tim 1:18-19; 1 Cor 14:1-5)
2. **We Increase by the Spirit's power in Revelation**
(1 Cor 2:1-5)
3. **We Increase by the Spirit's presence in Revelation**
(1 Cor 2:6-10)
4. **We Increase by the Spirit's perspective in Revelation**
(1 Cor 2:10b-13)
5. **We Increase by the Spirit's prominence in Revelation**
(1 Cor 2:14-16)
6. **Our Increase comes by trusting what God thinks, says, and does** (Rom 4:3; Heb 11:6)

If given the choice between what we think and what God has revealed... Why would we ever choose our thoughts?

QUESTIONS

1. In what ways have you experienced General Revelation? (becoming aware of God through nature, conscience, etc)
2. In what ways have you experienced Special Revelation? (experiencing revelation from God directly, from him, his word, his people, his work?)
3. Have you ever had an experience where God has used you to speak His timely words of life into the life of another?
4. Pray as a Group: that God would speak directly into your life and use you as vehicles of His special revelation in the lives of the people around you.