***Knowing God***

Ephesians 1:15-23

*What does church and* The Food Network *have in common?*

**My Father wants me to KNOW Him!**

(Ephesians 1:15-17)

* The signs of intelligent life: *Faith* and *Love*!

*Christian Faith is a substantial faith with a particular object!*

**Galatians 5:6 (NIV)**   
For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. *The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.*

* The end goal: *Get Smart(er)!!!*

**John 17:3 (NIV)**   
Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

**Psalm 34:8 (NIV)**   
Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

*Reflect: How does God “taste” to me?*

**Colossians 1:9 (NIV)**   
For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and *asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding*.

**Isaiah 11:2 (NIV)**   
The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—

*APPLY: Seriously “date” the Lord!!!*

**What my Father wants me to know…**

1. The Hope (I have been given)!

**Ephesians 2:12 (NIV)**   
… remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, *without hope and without God* in the world.

*Reflect: Am I hopeless or hopeful?*

1. The Riches (I will be given)!

**Colossians 1:12 (NIV)**   
…giving thanks to the Father, *who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints* in the kingdom of light.

*In Christ I am qualified for the inheritance!*

1. The Power (I have working for me/in me/through me)!

*Is my weakness beyond God’s power?*

*Many of us only know God vicariously.*