

Love With Insight Leading to What Is Best – Philippians 1:9-10

Philippians 1:9-10

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best...

Overflowing love

Increasing love

Knowledge and depth of insight

a. You can't have knowledge without love

1 Corinthians 13:2

If I can... fathom all mysteries and all knowledge... but have not love, I gain nothing

1 Corinthians 8:1-2

...knowledge puffs up but love builds up. ²The man who thinks he knows something does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But the man who loves God is known by God.

1 John 4:8

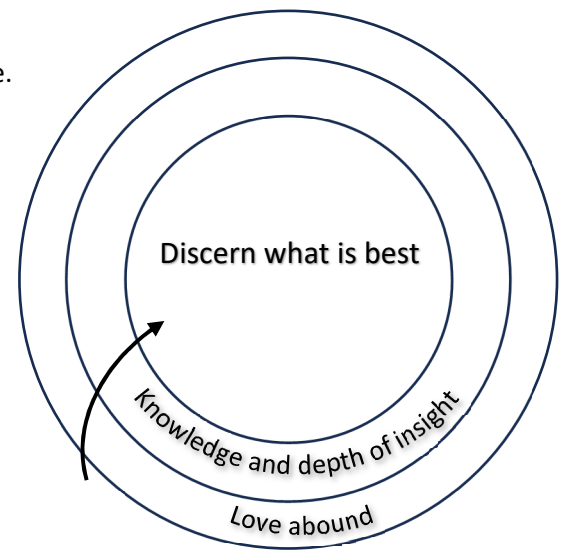
Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

b. You can't have love without knowledge

Discerning what is best

Proverbs 18:1

An unfriendly man pursues selfish ends; he defies all sound judgment.



Example #1 – Job and His Three Friends

1) Love

Job 2:11-13

¹¹When Job's three friends, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite, heard about all the troubles that had come upon him, they set out from their homes and met together by agreement to go and sympathize with him and comfort him. ¹²When they saw him from a distance, they could hardly recognize him; they began to weep aloud, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads. ¹³Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was.

2) Knowledge and Insight

Job 4:2

If someone ventures a word with you, will you be impatient? But who can keep from speaking?

Job 38:1-2

¹Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm. He said: ²“Who is this that obscures my plans with words without knowledge?

Job 42:3-4

³You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. ⁴"You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak;

Job 42:7

...I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.

Job 42:8

...You have not spoken of me what is right (not spoken the truth about me)...

Job 4:2

...who can keep from speaking?

Job 32:17-20

¹⁷I too will have my say; I too will tell what I know. ¹⁸For I am full of words, and the spirit within me compels me; ¹⁹inside I am like bottled-up wine, like new wineskins ready to burst. ²⁰I must speak and find relief; I must open my lips and reply.

3) Discern what is best

Example #2 – Jesus and Lazarus

1) Love

John 11:3

The one you love is sick

John 11:5

Jesus loved Martha and her sister Mary

John 11:36

See how he loved him

John 11:11

Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.

2) Knowledge and Insight

John 12:49-50

⁴⁹For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken. ⁵⁰I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.

John 5:19

Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."

John 11:5-6

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.

3) Discern what is best