

## MAIN POINT

*God wants us to know him fully, deeply, and intimately and that requires being in direct relationship with Him.*

## INTRODUCTION

Why is it often easier for us to talk about our successes rather than our failures?

Who are some Christians in your community you admire? Do you ever feel jealous of Christians who seem to be more spiritually mature than you? If so, why?

**It is easy to feel as though we are surrounded by Christians who seem to have it all together. We may find ourselves wondering if other believers have a “cheat sheet” giving them access to greater spiritual heights than us. But in reality, everyone struggles with feeling spiritually shallow at times. Today we will discuss the importance of having a direct relationship with Christ and how to grow steadily in that relationship every day, with no cheat sheets required.**

## DISCUSSION

### > READ COLOSSIANS 1:24-29.

In verse 25, what did Paul state as his commission? What does it mean for the word of God to be fully known?

Read Jeremiah 29:13. Relationship with Jesus requires that we go all in. What does it mean to seek the Lord with your whole heart?

What would it look like to give God complete control over your life? What areas you are currently withholding control from Him?

In the past, relating to God was an external activity of God’s people that required the mediation of priests. How did the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus create a way for us to have a direct relationship with God?

What is the difference between understanding the gospel intellectually and having a real relationship with Christ? Why is it important that we don’t just accumulate knowledge but also apply it to our lives?

One of the reasons we may feel shallow in our faith is because we lack spiritual maturity. What is spiritual maturity and how does one mature in Christ?

Like physical fitness, spiritual fitness requires time and discipline. Discuss the value of consistency in your own spiritual life and ways you seek to build habits in your faith?

## APPLICATION

Is there an area where you feel prevented from going deeper with God due to habitual sin, a need to confess, or something else? What will you do this week to address that and align your will with God’s?