

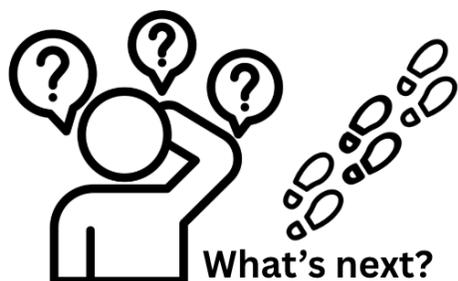
WHAT'S NEXT?

The Lord's Flock Worship Service Topic

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When life feels uncertain, things are not happening as we have planned, and progress seems slow, we often ask, "What's next?" God's answer to "What's next?" is not a change in our circumstances but a call to be planted in Him, to know Him personally, to align our hearts with His, to discover our purpose, and to live a flourishing life that impacts others.



"Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God" (Ps. 92:13). This teaches us that we must be in the right environment for growth to happen. While growth may still be possible in the wrong environment, it will never be as full as what God has planned for us. God desires the best for His people; He does not want us to settle for mediocrity.

As we journey through life, it is important to pause and see whether we are in the right environment—the presence of the Lord (Ps. 16:11)—before taking our next step.

St. Paul teaches us how to be in the right environment to flourish (Eph. 1:17-18).

1. **KNOW GOD PERSONALLY.** In the passage, the word "know" is from the Greek "GINOSKO," meaning to know God not just with our minds but with our hearts. It is a personal relationship that transforms us from within, moving beyond mere facts about God to an experience of His presence, love, and guidance.
2. **ALIGN WITH GOD (*Getting our hearts right with God*).** St. Paul prays for the Ephesians that *"the eyes of their hearts may be enlightened, so that they may know what hope belongs to their call (God's purpose)."* He is praying for their spiritual eyes to be opened to understand and grasp the heart of God. Similarly, when our hearts are right with God, our desires and actions begin to reflect His will. We stop pursuing what merely pleases us or others. Rather, we seek what honors Him and fulfills His purposes in our lives.

3. **DISCOVER OUR PURPOSE.** St. Paul reminds us that we are created on purpose and for a purpose. When we understand what God calls us to do, it directs us to the right path. We pursue this purpose with intentionality even through humps and bumps, because our God is both the Author and the Finisher of our faith. Whatever He places in our hearts, He will faithfully bring it to completion.

4. **MAKE A DIFFERENCE.** Reflect God's love to others. When our hearts are aligned with God, and we know our purpose, our desires and actions become more intentional and more committed to the will and ways of God. It makes us love, serve, and positively impact others.

Ephesians 1:17-18 points us to GOD'S INHERITANCE (Psalm 16)

1. Knowing God is **GOD Himself as our portion.**
2. Aligning with God is **FREEDOM.**
3. Discovering God's purpose is **GUIDANCE**
4. Making a difference to others is the **FULLNESS OF GOD'S JOY.**

Conclusion:

When we do not know what's next, we should pause and check whether we are still in the right environment. Psalm 92:13 calls us to be planted in God—to know Him personally, align our hearts with His, discover our purpose, and live intentionally for His glory. When we embrace God's presence and calling, our lives reflect His love, hope, and purpose, making a positive impact on others.

Reflection:

Where are you now? What next step can you take to be planted in the right environment and flourish in the purpose God has created for you?

SCRIBES Ministry

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