“My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge.” Hosea 4:6

I have had the privilege of working in my late father-in-law’s office several times over the last few months. Randy’s office, formerly Randa’s bedroom, has some old cabinets that were once downstairs, the top of which is mostly shelving which he used to place books, and they were filled. Filled with bible studies, prayer journals, and books which all bore evidence that they had been used. Randy had a hunger to study and grow his knowledge more than anyone I have ever known. I am still in awe of his drive today. Randy told me after he returned from Arkansas and had finished his cancer treatments, that he had been placed there to get closer to God. Any excuses that he might have, were removed, and if he didn’t grow in his prayer life and knowledge of God then it was his own fault. It made me question my own commitment. What things did I allow to be excuses in my life? Randy told me that his time in Arkansas was the first time he had studied just for the sake of studying in years. There was always a revival, bible study, or Sermon for which to prepare. It was different. Randy came back from Arkansas, and he was different. Not because he had been through cancer, but rather because he had been filled. What excuses do we make to avoid praying and studying? Many times, our work, family, and even our ministries take priority over our quiet time with the Lord. The easiest way for our ministry and our churches to be destroyed or radically changed, is for God’s people to stop desiring to know more about God and his ways. In Hosea’s day, God’s people had “rejected knowledge.” They didn’t want to know more because it might cause them to see their flaws. Lord, may we never lose our desire to know more about you! May we never be destroyed because we would rather allow the preacher to tell us what we should know instead of learning for ourselves! Fill me with a desire to seek your wisdom and ways. I pray that we as God’s people always hunger and thirst after righteousness. I pray that we as a church continue to grow and continue to be a soul winning station for God and never lose the desire for more!

Yours in Christ, Mark Dennis