

Week (6) DISCOVERING GOD THE FATHER **God reveals His character and provision.**

Day 26: God's Involvement

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:26-27; 2:15-25

Insight: God created everything and completely controls the entire universe, including humankind—the only creation in God's image. He exists eternally before and after time; therefore, He is the ultimate Designer behind the design we see all around us. As humans, we are completely at God's mercy for any hope of understanding His character, His demands, or His provision. Thankfully, in His love and grace, God has revealed everything we need to know about Him. As this text indicates, God is supremely unique, meaning that no other being can compare to His exclusive authority. God immediately involved Himself with His creation, as seen in this conversation with Adam. God desired for His creation to love Him in return and gave Adam the freedom to make that choice. God's created earth was perfect before the effects of sin and Adam was given the privileged responsibility of caring for the Garden of Eden. Yet, God had one more gift and her name was Eve, which established the human need for relationships.

Reflection:

Why does God have the right to determine acceptable human behavior?

What in life points to a powerful and wise Designer?

Why is God's involvement and provision so crucial?

What kind of earthly environment did God create?

Principle: God graciously involves Himself with His creation.



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Day 27: God's Covenant

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 4:32-40

Insight: The Bible records the amazing, miraculous acts of God, which demonstrate His unrivalled authority as God. He progressively reveals Himself throughout the Bible and as our Creator He knows and wants what is best for us. This passage proves that God deserves the worship and faith of humankind. He has acted with indescribable love toward His creation and simply desires our obedience. God's names in this passage also deserve notice. The two main names for God are represented in this passage, although many combinations are used to describe His character. The first name is Jehovah or Yahweh, often translated as LORD, denoting God as the absolute Being in the universe and the source of everything, without beginning and without end. This name is aptly explained when God told Moses His name was "I AM," representing His eternal existence and unlimited capabilities. A second significant name is Elohim, generally translated as GOD to capture His power, authority, and majesty.

Reflection:

How has God proven He will keep His promises?

How many ultimate Beings can logically exist?

What do the names of God reveal about the character of God?

Why is it difficult to understand God in human terms?

Principle: God alone is deserving of worship and obedience.



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Day 28: God's Praiseworthiness

Scripture Reading: Psalm 99

Insight: The psalms have a tremendous ability to transfer focus off of self and onto God. This psalm, like most psalms, highlights God's character and provides insight into God's plans for the future. The passage starts with the statement that God reigns; a reign that is not limited to a people-group, nation, or empire. God's reign encompasses all people of all time from His dwelling-place with the holy angels. Humankind's proper reaction to God's greatness is awe and reverence. Fundamentally, God is holy; He cannot be in contact with sin and He is positively and entirely pure. Again, we see God's grace in communicating His desires to humanity and offering forgiveness for those who desire it. God embodies perfect justice, which is demonstrated consistently and without prejudice. God's involvement in the events of life, free offering of forgiveness, and unblemished presence of holiness, demand a reaction of matchless praise. Whether now or in eternity, God guarantees everyone will eventually worship Him as the only God.

Reflection:

Why is God described as reigning?

What are the implications of God's holiness?

How is God's justice reflected in human events?

Why does God deserve our utmost praise?

Principle: God's character demands endless praise.



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Day 29: God's Provision

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 23:5-8

Insight: God had given His people a covenant agreement, which essentially required obedience for God's blessing. However, God's covenant agreement looked forward in great anticipation to a New Covenant that would be instituted through the seed of David. Throughout the Old Testament, God promised a Savior who would fulfill the Law and provide direct access to God, both of which were impossible before the coming of Jesus Christ. This passage looks forward to the day when the Promised One will rule entirely in justice, but also carries a more immediate, physical deliverance. The title given to this promised Deliverer—the Messiah—is very significant: "The Lord our Righteousness." "The LORD" indicates that the Messiah is literally God and "our Righteousness" indicates that He came for the purpose of making sinful humanity righteous before God. God revealed His eternal plan of physically coming to earth, perfectly fulfilling the Law, and sacrificing Himself to save those who trust in Him.

Reflection:

Why was a covenant agreement necessary?

What was the highly-anticipated promise of God?

Why was it necessary for God to come to earth?

How does God's eternal plan provide security?

Principle: God's unmatched love is evidenced in His promises.



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Day 30: God's Gift

Scripture Reading: John 3:16-18

Insight: God's greatness, holiness, power, and love far exceed human understanding, yet we often try to restrict God's vastness to our tiny mental capacities. Consequently, we can only know God because He has revealed Himself to us and He graciously did it in a manner relative to the human experience. God has provided us with everything we need to know, but He still requires faith from us. The first way God reveals Himself is as the Father. God the Father is the most general reference to God and conveys authority as seen in Creation, direct communication, the promise of Messiah, the gift of Jesus Christ His Son, and the presence of His Spirit. This passage clearly shows the love of God the Father in sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to offer eternal life as a free gift to sinful humanity. The resulting choice is simple: believe in God's provision for eternal life or remain in your natural, sinful condition for eternal condemnation. God's character demands holiness and justice, yet He freely offers just that to all.

Reflection:

Why is understanding God humanly impossible?

What does the term "God the Father" indicate?

What differentiates a gift from a purchase?

How is the choice of life or death consistent throughout the Bible?

Principle: God the Father provides eternal life through His Son.



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Additional Study

God alone is God: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

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God desires the love of His people: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

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God's greatness surpasses human understanding: Isaiah 55:8-9

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God's authority is ridiculous to fight: Romans 9:20-21

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God is the unchanging source of all good: James 1:17

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God exists eternally without a beginning: Psalm 90:2; John 5:26

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God exists everywhere with unlimited power: Jeremiah 23:24; Matthew 19:26

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God knows all things perfectly: I John 3:20

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God embodies, exhibits, and requires perfect holiness: Habakkuk 1:12-13

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Personal Journal

What hope would I have if God had not revealed Himself?

How is God's grace evidenced in conjunction with His commands?

How has God proven His trustworthiness and praiseworthiness?

What about human inability to understand God bothers me?

Why is a Father's love representative of God?

What is the ultimate choice God has given me?

“WHAT AMAZING LOVE GOD THE FATHER HAS SHOWN US”

