

LIFE GROUP – WEEK TWO

Enjoying God's Holiness

Psalm 99

This Fall, our sermon series is a deep dive into one of our core values as a church: enjoying God. Each week, we will focus on a different attribute of God and discover how we can go beyond knowing about God intellectually and begin to enjoy God relationally.

SERMON RECAP

How do you enjoy God's holiness? It's a question many of us have never considered, because the answer seems clear - we don't. At least, not as much as we should.

God's holiness often feels unrelatable. After all, to say God is holy is to say that he is not like us!

But Psalm 99 shows us that, while his holiness does include his transcendence and moral purity, it is also the driving force behind his desire for relationship with us. And that should change how we see God's holiness.

GETTING STARTED

How did you enjoy God this past week? Did you find yourself enjoying God in any unexpected moments?

When was a time you felt humbled? How did you respond to that experience?

REMINDER

These guides are meant to facilitate PRESENCE - to God and one another - not to check boxes. Feel free to let conversation naturally flow to whichever questions connect with you personally. As the Spirit leads you, feel free to set aside this guide to pause, praise, and pray together.

Our discipleship to Jesus is meant to be a holistic way of living, involving our whole selves - head, heart, and hands. While each person will likely gravitate to one of these over the others, it's important we all consider how God's love affects our minds, our hearts, and our actions.

HEAD	How would you describe God's holiness to someone who doesn't follow Jesus? Think of someone in Scripture who responded poorly to God's holiness - what do you think might be driving that person's response? Think of someone in Scripture who responded well to God's holiness - what stands out about their attitude toward God and themselves?
HEART	How do you feel when you think about God's holiness? Are your affections stirred? Does your heart feel unmoved? Do you feel distant? Scared? Invited? Exposed? Seen? Unworthy? Loved? <i>Drew mentioned different ways people respond to God's holiness in the Bible - hiding, fighting, disobeying, indifference, arguing, running away, hating.</i> How have you tended to respond to God's holiness in the past? How might the Spirit be inviting you to respond differently?
HANDS	How do you think growing in humility might lead you to grow in holiness? What is one practical step you can take to humble yourself? What do you think about the idea of literally bowing as a way to cultivate humility in light of God's holiness? How does that challenge you?

PRAY TOGETHER

Close your discussion with a time of extended prayer (10-15min).

If you feel comfortable doing so, kneel or bow in a posture of humility before God as you pray together.

Remember God's transcendence - that he is high and above you, different from you, fully other.

Praise God's moral purity - that he is sinless and completely perfect.

Receive God's relational invitation - that he desires to invite you to enjoy and share in his holiness.

Thank God for the ways he is currently sanctifying you (making you holy).