

# **Getting Started**

### Overview of the Week:

Our theme for the week is dwelling on the glory of God. God's glory is a titanic concept, rich with meaning and somewhat nebulous at the same time. Like all of God's attributes, His glory is infinite and not within our ability to fully comprehend. Interestingly enough, God's glory refers to the manifestation of His splendor, majesty, and beauty. We will study together how to see God's glory through creation and His Word, and we'll learn why sharing God's glory is an essential part of God's plan.

## **How Do I Prepare?**

This week, we're going to look at several psalms that feature the theme/idea of the glory of God. We will study Psalm 19, 105, and 24 this week. As always, on day 5, you will have the opportunity to reflect on the studies of the week and choose one of those passages to dig into more deeply for self and communal application.

## Memory Verse of the Week:

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1, ESV).

On the next page, write or "Scripture doodle" your memory verse.

## Prayer of the Week:

On the next page, write out a prayer to the Lord, praising Him for revealing Himself to us and showing us His glory. Use Psalm 24 to guide you as you write this prayer.

## Songs of the Week:

"All Creatures of Our God and King," traditional; "The Glory of God," Matt Papa; "He Reigns," Newsboys; "Hosanna," Hillsong United; "Holy Spirit," Francesca Battistelli Link to playlist: https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3BEh5j9yeffglo4EbmvRqW



Week Six Prayer:

# Day One: God's Glory Revealed in Nature

## 1. Pray

Before we begin reading and examining God's Word, let's ask the Lord to lead us in the study of His Word.

#### 2. Examine

As we begin our study on dwelling on the glory of God, we'll start by taking a look at Psalm 19. We'll study the first half of this psalm today and the second half tomorrow. Read Psalm 19 in its entirety.

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.
- <sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.
- <sup>4</sup> Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,
- <sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
- <sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; <sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

- <sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.
- <sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors?

  Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

  <sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
  let them not have dominion over me!

  Then I shall be blameless,
  and innocent of great transgression.
- <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. (ESV)

#### The Context:

Psalm 19, a psalm of David, is addressed to the Chief Musician, showing that the psalmist intends for it to be sung together corporately. It is a wisdom hymn that is divided into two primary sections: 1) The revelation of God through His creation; and 2) The revelation of God through His Word. Today, we will focus on section 1, and tomorrow, we'll look at section 2.

David begins this psalm with the well-known verse, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1, ESV). Though the word "heavens" can have various meanings in Scripture, here, David is referring to the heavens (skies) above, not spiritual heaven. He opens this psalm with the idea that God has revealed Himself to all people in the world through creation. Regardless of where a person lives, everyone has access to seeing the sky above, so David uses the sky as his reference point to the universal nature of God's glory. He emphasizes the universality of God's revelation while also pointing to its consistency in verse 2: "Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge" (ESV). Daily, people are able to see and know that there is a Being who is greater than they are, that there is an Intelligent Designer who has set the world into motion. Spurgeon, quoting Aristotle, comments on nature's ability to reveal the existence of God: "Should a man live underground, and there converse with the works of art and mechanism, and should afterwards be brought up into the open day, and see the several glories of the heaven and earth, he would immediately pronounce them the work of such a Being as we define God to be." Evidence for God is clear and all around us. No one lacks access to this truth.

David further emphasizes the truth that all mankind has been exposed to the idea of God's existence in verse 3 by pointing out how nature speaks equally to all people, regardless of their language. People of every nation, tribe, and tongue can see and understand that God exists through the revelation of Himself through creation. The King James Version actually states this most clearly: "There is no speech or language, where their voice is not heard" (Psalm 19:3). God's desire to be glorified (made known, made famous) to all of humanity reverberates throughout this psalm and is especially clear in verses 3 and 4. The first part of verse 4 reads, "Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world" (ESV). Again, David emphasizes that God doesn't just reveal Himself to a select few but instead desires to be known by people everywhere, even to the ends of the world.

In the second half of verse 4, and extending through verse 6, David shifts from discussing the far-reaching nature of God's revelation. He now begins to focus on the manifest, awesome, and splendid nature of God's revelation in nature. David provides us with a beautiful image of the sun bursting onto the scene every morning and charioting itself across the sky, sending down beams of light and warmth for all of creation to both see and feel. Its heat calls out for people to notice it, even if they aren't looking directly at it. The presence of the sun, like the presence of God, cannot go unnoticed.

In these first six verses of Psalm 19, David draws our attention to the fact that God has made Himself known to all of humanity. His revelation is glorious and beautiful and is universal, sent out to all of creation. This truth demonstrates God's omniscience, sovereignty, and glory. His presence is visible to everyone everywhere due to His sovereign plan that He set in place from the beginning of time. His glory is evidenced through the beauty of His presence and the goodness that comes from His desire to reveal Himself not just to some but to all.

# Your Turn to Dig In

1. Re-read verses 1-6. List the different aspects of creation that David mentions here in which mankind can see the glory of God. Why do you think David chose to mention these specific elements when praising God for His glory as revealed in creation?

2. Re-read verses 1-6 again. What attributes of God do we see revealed in nature, as evidenced in these verses?

3.	Keeping in mind the universal nature of God's glory revealed to mankind through creation, read Romans 1:18-20. What impact does God revealing Himself to all of creation have on humanity?
4.	Ecclesiastes 3:11 tells us that God "has put eternity into man's heart God sets eternity in the hearts of men" (ESV). Keeping this verse in mind, also read 1 Timothy 2:4 and 2 Peter 3:9. All of mankind not only has an awareness of God's existence but also an awareness of eternity. Why would God reveal himself to all of creation and also put eternity in every person's heart? How does this connect to His plan and purpose for humanity?
5.	The image David paints of the sun shining brightly in the sky in this passage is breathtaking and powerful. Light is a prominent theme shown throughout Scripture. The Triune God is also represented with images of light. How does David's imagery of the sun reflect truths about God and His glory?

# **Reflection and Application**

Clearly, nature reveals the goodness, glory, and beauty of God. This goes without question. However, throughout history, people have distorted this revelation and have chosen to worship creation rather than the Creator Himself. As we seek to grow in our knowledge of God through reflecting upon His creation, remember that the purpose of creation is to reflect truths about who God is and what he is like. As you reflect on Psalm 19, I hope you can see not only the beauty of nature itself but also (and more so!) the glorious, splendid nature of God Himself.

1. If you are able, take some time this week to get outside and soak up the beauty of God's creation. As believers, we are certainly not followers of the Wordsworthian transcendental idea that nature is our teacher and that to understand truth, we must be out in nature and soak it up like a sponge. However, with a proper understanding of the greater Truth behind the creation, we can and should recognize attributes of God as demonstrated through the heavens and earth. I encourage you to sit outside or go for a walk and spend time praising God for His creation and thanking Him for revealing Himself to you. Pray that God would make Himself known to others who are seeing the same sun, moon, and stars as you. After you reflect and pray, write down how your time in God's creation pointed you back to the Creator.

2. Since God has revealed Himself to all humanity and, therefore, no one is excused from not following Him, it is vital for His children to help spread the truth of God to people all around the world. How are you involved in going and telling people in and beyond your sphere of influence?

# Day Two: God's Glory Revealed in His Word

## 1. Pray

Before we begin reading and examining God's Word, let's ask the Lord to lead us in the study of His Word.

#### 2. Examine

As we continue our study of God's glory, we'll return to Psalm 19 and dive into seeing God's glory revealed through His Word. Re-read Psalm 19 before moving on.

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.
- <sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.
- <sup>4</sup> Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, <sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man,
- <sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

runs its course with joy.

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; <sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

- <sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.
- <sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors?

  Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

  <sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
  let them not have dominion over me!

  Then I shall be blameless,
  and innocent of great transgression.
- <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. (ESV)

#### The Context:

Yesterday, we noted how God reveals Himself to every person through nature. Today, we will see the completion of God's revelation as seen through His Word.

David begins the second half of Psalm 19 by highlighting the perfect and righteous nature of God's law. He describes God's laws and teachings as "perfect," sure," "right," "pure," "clean," and "true" in verses 7-9. He uses all of these adjectives to show the complete, sufficient, and spotless nature of God's Word. It is free from error, wholesome, consummate, and not lacking in any way. Not only does David point out these innate characteristics of God's Word, but he also notes the benefits that come from God's Word. In doing so, he further demonstrates the good and upright nature of it. Due to its perfection and richness, God's Word is a valuable treasure, worth more than precious gold. David also describes it as sweet, demonstrating its desirable and enticing nature.

David then explains how God's Word is also a protective force against sin and evil. Mankind naturally stands in opposition to God's Word. We are not innately pure, clean, and true. Rather, we are inherently sinful and in need of God's saving grace. Through the Word, though, we are able to first become aware of our sins and, second, be enlightened regarding the ways of God. David points out that great reward is found in keeping God's law. It is beneficial and helpful, not something that is merely in place as rule keeping for rule keeping sake.

David closes out the psalm with a beautiful reflective prayer. He acknowledges that he in his natural state is susceptible to falling into sin, so he asks God to keep him from this. He asks God to cleanse him of hidden sins, showing that God knows David even better than David knows himself. He desires to be blameless before God and knows he cannot be unless God grants him forgiveness. He is also aware that the natural inclination of his heart is not towards the things of God, so he prays and asks God for his words and meditations to be pleasing to God. In the last line, David refers to God differently than he has in the earlier parts of the psalm. He calls God his "rock and redeemer," showing that God is David's strength, his foundation to stand on, and his salvation.

# Your Turn to Dig In

1. Why is God's revelation in nature incomplete without the revelation that comes through His Word? What aspects or truths about God are not made known through nature alone?

2. Why is it essential that God's Word be perfect? How does God's Word being perfect reflect the God who wrote it?

3.	Re-read verses 7-9. List the various benefits that David notes coming from the Word of God.
4.	Re-read verse 14. Why is it essential that God be both David's rock and his redeemer? How do these two concepts fit together?
5.	Read Romans 10:11-17. Here, we see the apostle Paul explaining that anyone who calls on God's Name will be saved. He then explains that no one can call on God's Name unless that person believes the Word of God. Romans 10:17 states, "Faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God." With this passage in mind, explain why David decided to praise God for both His revelation through nature as well as His revelation through His Word. Why does he do both of these things in the same psalm?

## **Reflection and Application**

God's glory truly is revealed through both His creation and His Word. He lovingly chooses to reveal truths about Himself to us rather than being a private, removed God. We are exceedingly blessed to be able to know and serve this great God, who made all things. As you reflect on Psalm 19, I pray that you will see God for the mighty, awesome, powerful being that He is and that you will also see that He is worthy of all glory, honor, and praise. I hope that you will desire to know him more and more and will see ever more clearly the privilege and joy that growing in knowledge and relationship with Him is.

1. Our theme this week is the glory of God. This passage begins by saying that the heavens declare the glory of God, meaning that they show us truths about God and make His attributes known to us. Based on this psalm, how does God's Word do the same? What does this tell us about how we can best glorify God or give Him glory?

2. Focusing on verses 12-14, take some time to pray David's prayer to God. Ask God to reveal to you any hidden sins in your heart. Ask Him to keep you from falling into temptation and to forgive you of your sins, making you blameless in His sight by covering you with Christ's righteousness. Then, ask God to help your words, thoughts, and feelings reflect His teachings so that they will be pleasing to Him.

# **Day Three: God's Glorious Deeds**

## 1. Pray

Before we begin reading and examining God's Word, let's ask the Lord to lead us in the study of His Word. Ask God to give you a grateful heart before Him today.

#### 2. Examine

Today, we will take a closer look at God's glory as evidenced through His powerful works He's done in the past, particularly to the Israelites. Keep this idea in mind as you read Psalm 105 in its entirety.

<sup>1</sup>Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

<sup>2</sup> Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

<sup>3</sup> Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

<sup>4</sup> Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

<sup>5</sup> Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles,

and the judgments he uttered,

<sup>6</sup> O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

<sup>7</sup> He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth. <sup>8</sup> He remembers his covenant forever, the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations, <sup>9</sup> the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, <sup>10</sup> which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, <sup>11</sup> saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan

as your portion for an inheritance."

When they were few in number, of little account, and sojourners in it,
wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people,
he allowed no one to oppress them; he rebuked kings on their account,
saying, "Touch not my anointed ones, do my prophets no harm!"

When he summoned a famine on the land and broke all supply of bread,
he had sent a man ahead of them,
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
His feet were hurt with fetters;
his neck was put in a collar of iron;
until what he had said came to pass,
the word of the LORD tested him.
The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free;

<sup>21</sup> he made him lord of his house and ruler of all his possessions,
 <sup>22</sup> to bind his princes at his pleasure and to teach his elders wisdom.

- <sup>23</sup> Then Israel came to Egypt;Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.
- <sup>24</sup> And the LORD made his people very fruitful and made them stronger than their foes.
- <sup>25</sup>He turned their hearts to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants.
- <sup>26</sup> He sent Moses, his servant, and Aaron, whom he had chosen.
- <sup>27</sup> They performed his signs among them and miracles in the land of Ham.
- <sup>28</sup> He sent darkness, and made the land dark; they did not rebel against his words.
- <sup>29</sup> He turned their waters into blood and caused their fish to die.
- <sup>30</sup> Their land swarmed with frogs, even in the chambers of their kings.
- <sup>31</sup>He spoke, and there came swarms of flies, and nats throughout their country.
- <sup>32</sup> He gave them hail for rain, and fiery lightning bolts through their land.
- <sup>33</sup> He struck down their vines and fig trees, and shattered the trees of their country.
- <sup>34</sup> He spoke, and the locusts came, young locusts without number,
- 35 which devoured all the vegetation in their land and ate up the fruit of their ground.
- <sup>36</sup> He struck down all the firstborn in their land, the firstfruits of all their strength.

- <sup>37</sup>Then he brought out Israel with silver and gold, and there was none among his tribes who stumbled.
- <sup>38</sup> Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it.
- <sup>39</sup> He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night.
- <sup>40</sup> They asked, and he brought quail, and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.

and Abraham, his servant.

- <sup>41</sup> He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river.
  <sup>42</sup> For he remembered his holy promise,
- <sup>43</sup> So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.
- <sup>44</sup> And he gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the fruit of the peoples' toil,
- <sup>45</sup> that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the LORD! (ESV)

#### The Context:

In the two previous lessons, we looked at how God makes His glory known to the world through His creation and His Word. Today, we are going to see how God's glory is evident through His wondrous works of the past. And we are going to look at how we can be glorifying to God. John Piper defines "glorifying God" as "feeling and thinking and acting in ways that reflect his greatness, that make much of God, that give evidence of the supreme greatness of all his attributes and the all-satisfying beauty of his manifold perfections." Psalm 105 is a wonderful example of glorifying God through remembrance, praise, and thanksgiving. As we reflect on the psalm, we are also going to look at the importance of spreading the truth about God's glory to people throughout the world.

Though not directly attributed to him in the book of psalms, David is most likely the author of Psalm 105. The first part of this psalm also appears in 1 Chronicles 16 and is there attributed to King David. It stands to reason, then, that David wrote the entire psalm, though that cannot be known for certain. The first 15 verses of this psalm were sung after the ark of the covenant was brought to Jerusalem and placed in the tent David had prepared for it. It was used to thank God and give praise, honor, and dignity to Him.

David begins the psalm with a call to worship in the first 6 verses. He calls on the Israelites to turn their attention to God by recalling His glorious deeds of the past and, in response, giving praise and thanks to Him. In verses 7-25, David reminds the hearers of God's faithfulness, care, and protection of Israel during the time of the patriarchs (Abraham, Jacob, and Isaac). He then goes on to praise God for His continual, sovereign care for Israel as he brought them out of Egypt and into the Promised Land, as seen in verses 26-45.

The psalm begins and ends with an inclusio: the idea of giving praise and thanks to God. The purpose of remembering God's great deeds, of recalling these marvelous stories of the Old Testament, is to thank Him for what He has done and to praise His name.

# Your Turn to Dig In

1. Re-read verses 1-5. Note all the active verbs the psalmist calls on the reader/hearer to do.

2. Several times, the psalmist tells the reader to "remember." Why is remembrance such a key act for God's children?

3.	We have repeatedly seen the psalmists point back to early Israeli history to demonstrate God's power, protection, and sovereignty. David does this again in Psalm 105. Look through the psalm in its entirety, and note areas where you see instances of
	a) God's power
	b) God's protection
	c) God's sovereignty
4.	Re-read Piper's definition of "glorifying God." How do you see David glorifying God in the way that he writes this psalm?
5.	God's glory points to him being honorable and upright, worthy of praise. As you read through the psalm, what aspects listed here point to Him being honorable, upright, and praiseworthy?

## **Reflection and Application**

It is beyond question that God is glorious. He is honorable, majestic, and praiseworthy. His deeds are wondrous, and they are meant to be seen and known by all people in the world. He has been doing great deeds since before time began, and many of His works are recorded for us in Scripture so that we can see more and more of His goodness and glory. The more that we know His Word, the fuller picture we will have of just how awesome God is. I hope that this reading of Psalm 105 has helped you grow in your view of God and has sparked praise and worship. I also hope that it inspires you to share God's glory with others, making His name great and well known throughout your sphere of influence and beyond.

1. Which of the Old Testament stories mentioned in Psalm 105 resonate most with you? Why? How do you see God's glory in this passage, and how does this inspire you towards praise and thanksgiving?

2. Psalm 105 is a short, poetic history of Israel's redemptive history. Take some time to think through your personal redemptive history. How have you seen God's sovereign hand at work in your life to draw you to Him, to deliver you from sin and harmful events, and to make you more like him? Jot down some key events in your life, and praise God for how He has cared for and protected you like He did the Israelites.

# Day Four: Dwelling with the King of Glory

## 1. Pray

Before we begin reading and examining God's Word, let's ask the Lord to lead us in the study of His Word.

#### 2. Examine

We have spent several days studying God's glory as seen in the psalms. Today, let's turn our attention to Psalm 24. Read the psalm in its entirety before we look at it more closely together.

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, <sup>2</sup> for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

<sup>3</sup> Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
<sup>4</sup> He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
<sup>5</sup> He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
<sup>6</sup> Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah* 

<sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up,
O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
<sup>8</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!
<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
<sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory! *Selah* (ESV)

#### The Context:

Psalm 24 is another psalm of David. The psalm is best divided into 3 sections, with verses 1 and 2 showing God's glory through His creativity (creating the world), verses 3 through 6 showing God's glory through His holiness, and verses 7 through 10 showing God's glory through His sovereignty as seen in His kingly reign.

Many believe that this psalm, like Psalm 105, was written prior to approaching the Ark of the Covenant in Jerusalem. Spurgeon remarks, "The eye of the Psalmist looked, however, beyond the typical upgoing of the ark to the sublime ascension of the King of glory." Clearly, the psalmist saw that God's glory dwelt within the ark itself but understood also that God's glory fills the earth and that there would come a time in the future when His glory would be known (will be known) to all who inhabit it.

The psalm is a liturgy used primarily before entering into God's presence in worship. David begins by acknowledging who God is: He is the Creator of the universe and the One to whom all of it belongs. This acknowledgement couples with it the idea of God being supreme, exalting Him to His proper place of worship while reminding humanity that we are the worshippers, not the worshipped.

David furthers that idea by recognizing that not just anyone can come into the presence of God. God, being holy, requires that in order to come into His presence, we, too, must be holy as he is holy. Initially, this can be an intimidating and even devastating idea. Even the Scriptures tell us that no one is holy or righteous, so how can we ever enter into His presence? Praise be to God that He made a way for us to commune with Him through the sacrifice of His only Son, Jesus Christ. Those of us who are followers of Jesus have his righteousness imputed to us so that we are able to stand in the presence of the Lord.

David here specifies, however, that God requires us to have "clean hands," "pure hearts," and an attitude that does not lift ourselves up or uplift falsity. David acknowledges here that as followers of the Lord, we must also seek to live lives that reflect God's holiness. Repentance, then, is a crucial aspect of coming before the Lord. If we truly want to commune with Him and be able to come into His presence, we must continually seek out sin in our hearts, confess it, and repent. The result of us doing so is that we receive blessings from God and have access to the salvation that He offers.

In the last part of the psalm, David calls for the people of Israel (and for all believers hearing and reading this psalm) to welcome God, the King of Glory, into their hearts and places of worship. This section is packed with significance as it signifies the special presence of God being brought into Jerusalem through the Ark of the Covenant (2 Samuel 6) and also predicts the coming of the Messiah King, through whom the rest of the truths in the psalm are made possible. According to James Montgomery Boice, "Ancient rabbinical sources tell us that, in the Jewish liturgy, Psalm 24 was always used in worship on the first day of the week. The first day of the week is our Sunday. So, putting these facts together, we may assume that these were the words being recited by the temple priests at the very time the Lord Jesus Christ mounted a donkey and ascended the rocky approach to Jerusalem." In the same way that this passage was fulfilled when Jesus entered into Jerusalem, it is also fulfilled whenever a person accepts Jesus as King within his or her own heart (Guzik).

This God who dwells everywhere is accessible to all people; however, many refuse to acknowledge Him and instead lift themselves up into His place. David reminds his audience that God, not man, is the One who is the True King, who is strong, who is mighty, and who reigns. How beautiful is it that this Mighty King is willing to stoop down and commune with us, His people? I pray that we are ever aware of the beauty that this image brings and that we continually draw near to Him in worship and awe.

# Your Turn to Dig In

1. Re-read verse 1. What belongs to the Lord, and why? What does this tell us about the earth, our belongings, ourselves?

2. Read Isaiah 59:2. What does this passage tell us about sin and our relationship with God? Compare this to verses 4 and 5 of this psalm.

3. Read Ephesians 2:11-18. What does this passage say about people having access to God?

4.	Read 2 Samuel 6.
	a) Describe what happened when David brought the Ark to Jerusalem.
	b) What was David's outward emotional response to the Ark coming to reside in Jerusalem? How did his wife respond?
	c) Based on the last verse, which response do you think was more appropriate before God in that situation?
	d) What does it look like when you welcome the Lord into your place of worship?
5.	What is the proper response to the King of Glory according to this psalm? What is your response to Him?

## **Reflection and Application**

Each of us has to choose how we will respond to the King of Glory. Do we welcome him with open hearts, preparing ourselves with confession and repentance, in order to fully dwell with Him? Or do we exalt ourselves and choose to remain the kings and queens of our own lives, unwilling to submit to His ways? I pray that Psalm 24 inspires us to seek God for the treasure that He is, recognizing Him as the True King of Glory who is worth abandoning ourselves and our desires for the sake of His Kingdom, remembering that the earth and all that is within it, in all reality, belongs to Him.

1. David begins this psalm with the declaration that everything on earth belongs to the Lord, including the earth itself. Reflect on your mindset towards your belongings. Do you treat them as the Lord's or as your own? In what areas do you most align with the Bible's teaching about this, and in what areas would you like to grow?

2. This psalm fully glorifies God and lifts Him up as the great King that He is. It places sole focus on God and does not include a plea or request from Him. Sometimes, we come to God more focused on ourselves and our needs than on who God is and on giving Him the glory He deserves. What is your time with the Lord mostly centered on? What in your time with the Lord would you like to remain the same, and what would you like to change so that you focus more on bringing glory to God?

# Day Five: Week Six Debrief & PERCH Study

This week, we have focused on dwelling on the glory of God. We have looked at His Kingly majesty, His creative power, His redemptive plan, and His true and reputable Word. We've seen how He reveals Himself to every person in humanity and desires for His Name to be renown throughout the world. I hope that this has encouraged you to know Him more and to live a life that reflects Him so as to bring Him glory. I also hope that it encourages you to speak the truth about Him to others so as to share in bringing more and more people into His Kingdom and, thereby, more and more worshippers before the throne of God giving Him the glory that He is due.

# **Debrief Week Six Using PERCH**

Choose a passage from one of the psalms we read this week. It can be an entire psalm, or it can be a small portion of a psalm. If you chose a shorter passage, write out the passage below. If you choose a longer passage, choose key verses and keywords to write below.

# 1. Pray

Before moving forward, pray and ask God to speak to you through the study of His Word.

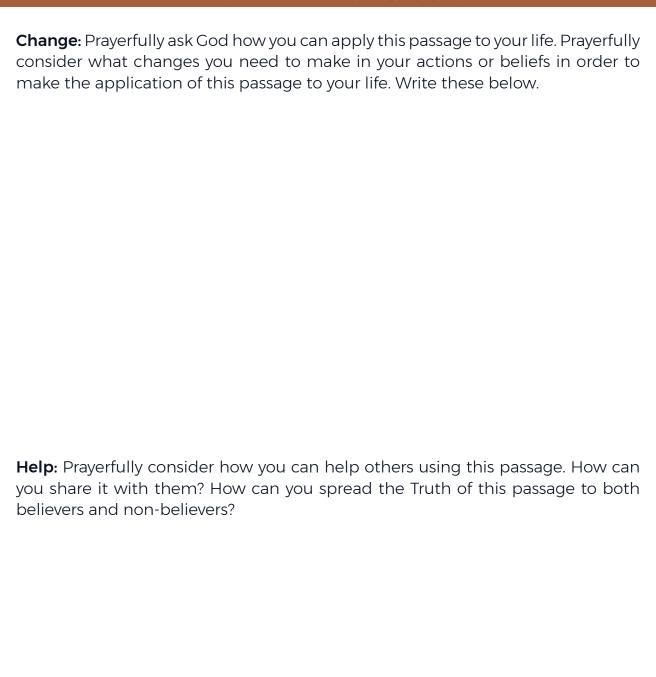
## 2. Examine and Reflect

Answer the questions below.

1. What does this passage teach about God?

2. What does this passage teach that we must obey?

3. How does this passage connect to the gospel?



### NOTES