

Discussion Outline & Questions for Sunday, April 12

Teaching Series... Seeing God (*Psalm 19*)

Question 1: What is the clearest way God has specifically revealed himself to us?

The clearest way God has revealed himself to us is...

1. through his Son, Jesus Christ, the living word of God.

...God shows us who He is in 3 ways;

through 1 The spoken word (creation), 2 The Written Word (Canon), and in His clearest revelation; through 3 The Living Word (Christ).

Let's look at 3 ways God has revealed himself to us... according to Psalm 19

Genesis 1:3 (*Spoken Word of God=Creation*)

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light...
(God spoke all creation into existence, Creation is the result of God's speech)

Psalm 19:1-2

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

And remember ...Romans 1:19-20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.

(*Written Word of God=Canon*)

Psalm 19:7-8

The law of the Lord is perfect; reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

(*Living Word of God=Christ*)

John 1:14

The word became flesh and dwelt among us.
(Jesus is called 'the word' or the living word)

Psalm 19:12-13

Declare me innocent of my hidden sin and keep your servant back from presumptuous sin
Then I will be blameless and innocent from great transgression.

Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Discussion: As we think of the 3 major ways God has revealed himself to us...

- Take some time to read the above sections and briefly talk about each section.
- Spend time in prayer and praise God for His spoken word, His written word, and His Living Word, and how God has taken the time to reveal himself to us. Such a gift!

Question 2: What is the harsh reality of the human condition?

The 6 harsh truths of the human condition are these...

- 1. There is an absolute moral standard for man given by our creator God.*
- 2. Man has rebelled against this law. We are in error; we are all sinners.*
- 3. Our minds & hearts can deceive us because of our sin nature & limitations*
- 4. So we are all guilty of hidden and willful or presumptuous sins.*
- 5. Furthermore, without God's grace; Sin indeed has dominance over us.*
- 6. Thus, apart from the grace of God we will die in our sin & rebellion.*

Psalm 19:12-13

Who can discern his errors?

Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant from presumptuous sins;

let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

Discussion:

1. As we think about the human condition and the problem with sin that we all have, what does each statement in verses 12 & 13 tell us about our condition?

- ^{12a} “Who can discern his errors”

Ex. We all have limited understanding.

- ^{12b} “Declare me innocent of my hidden faults”

We all have hidden _____.

- ^{13a} “Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins”

We all have presumptuous or willful _____.

- ^{13b} “let them (my sin) not have dominion over me”

We are all slaves to _____.

- ^{13c} “Then I shall be *blameless*, and *innocent* of great transgression”

Only God can ‘declare’ us to be ‘blameless’ and _____ ‘of great sin.

2. It's easy to say humanity is this or that, but it is much harder to personalize it in own heart...

- a. I'm sure we all have had several situations that we would have handled differently with more knowledge. Take some time to discuss how imperfect knowledge and limited understanding sometimes leads to ‘hidden sins’ in our lives.
- b. Have you ever heard the phrase “ignorance of the law is no excuse”? Does the fact that the sin was hidden in our lives, change the fact that it is still sin in our lives? Why?
- Read the following scriptures and share a time when your heart led you astray?

Proverbs 14:12 *"There is a way that seems right unto a man
But the end there of leads to death"*

Jeremiah 17:9 *"The heart is deceitful above all things,
and desperately sick; who can understand it?"*

3. Can you recall a time when you knew you were breaking a command but did it anyway? Explain how we all do this from time to time and without God's grace we are slaves to sin.

Question 3: How is Jesus our rock and our redeemer?

Jesus is our rock and our redeemer because...

- 1. We are sinners without God we are dominated by sin thus not acceptable in God's sight.*
- 2. Jesus lives a sinless life and dies for our sins as a substitute to pay our death penalty to make us acceptable in God's sight.*
- 3. By grace through faith, Jesus death and resurrection sets us free from sin and death's dominance and this is the only way to be redeemed.*

Psalm 19:12-14

¹² Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Discussion: As you read through this passage again notice that verses 12-13 describe our sin problem. also notice that verse 14 isn't about what the psalmist is going to do in his own strength, as we look closely, we see that it is actually a prayer asking God to help him to 'let the words of his mouth and meditation of his heart be acceptable in God's sight' and that he needs God to be his 'rock and his redeemer' so this will be possible.

- Discuss how this prayer is actually very similar to a prayer of salvation asking for Jesus to make us acceptable in God's sight and to be our rock and our redeemer.
- The salvation prayer is this type of prayer where we acknowledge our sin and helplessness, and we humbly ask God for forgiveness and help, and with the help of our rock and redeemer seek to honor God with our thoughts, actions, and words.
 - I know that I am a sinner. I know I have both hidden and willful sins in my life.
 - I know without your grace I'm a slave to my own sin and rebellion.
 - I want to be acceptable in your sight oh God, but I need your grace and forgiveness.
 - I need a rock and a redeemer for my acceptance and obedience...
 - Jesus you are my rock and my redeemer for my acceptance and obedience!
 - Thank you Jesus for your redeeming work; your death and resurrection save me!
- Read through the following passages about God's plan of redemption:
 - Paul shares the way of salvation by grace through faith in Christ.
 - Romans 3:10** "No one is righteous no not one."
 - Romans 3:23** "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"
 - Romans 6:23** "The penalty for sin is death,"
 - Romans 5:8** "while we were sinners Christ died for us"
 - Romans 6:23b** "yet the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ."
 - Romans 10:9** "if we confess with our mouth and believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead we will be saved."

Question 4: How does Jesus our redeemer reveal the heart of God?

Jesus identity, life, death, and resurrection reveals the character of God..

- 1. By coming in divine greatness & living a sinless life full of grace & truth,*
- 2. By displaying his love for us in his death as a substitute for our sin, thus showing both God's mercy for us and his justice toward sin.*
- 3. By his resurrection from the grave showing us victory and life in Him!*

Discussion: Take some time and read through these 3 sections below...

- Talk about how each aspect of Christ reveals more and more about who God is...

- **His life:** Jesus was and is God and he lived a sinless life full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

The Word (God see v.1-2) became a man and lived among us. We saw his divine greatness—the greatness that belongs to the only Son of the Father. The Word was full of grace and truth

Hebrews 1:1-3

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

- **His death:** Jesus died the perfect substitute for sin so God would remain full of justice toward evil and at the same time show mercy and grace to sinners.

Psalm 85:10

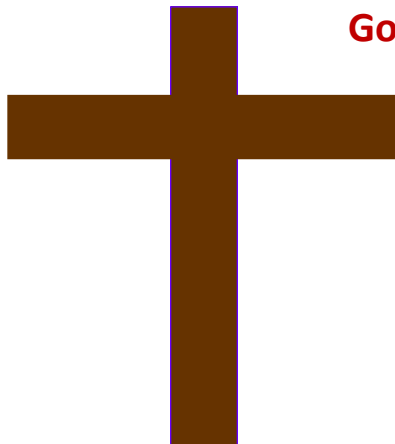
Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

God's Holiness

God's Sovereignty

Jesus death shows...

God's love
God's mercy
God's compassion
God's grace
God's kindness
God's peace



God planning this death shows...

God's faithfulness
God's Justice
Wrath toward evil
God's truth
God's righteousness
God's integrity

God's goodness

- **His resurrection and victory**

John 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,"

"Jesus came out of the grave and so will I"



Church Challenge:

- Make a 1 minute death to life testimony and post it on Facebook....
- Let's let the world our hope in life & death is in Jesus & his resurrection!

Here's how it will work...

Check it: Check out the testimonies we have already posted on Facebook.

Pray it: Pray and ask God for help and insight.

Write it: Write it out if it helps you remember it.

Film it. And post it on Facebook. **Make sure it is at or under 1 minute**

Post it: Post this testimony to Facebook for us to see and the world to hear!

Tag it: Tunnel Hill First Baptist Facebook page

Use these phrases at the start and finish of your testimony...

"My name is..._____"

"A Key Death to life moment in my life was.."

(Insert your 1 minute testimony here)

"Jesus came out of the grave and so will I"

The following is an example testimony: (Pastor Tyson's Testimony)

My name is... Tyson Griffin

"A Key Death to life moment in my life was.."

I was controlled by fear

1.) Fear of man's opinion

2.) Fear of failure

3.) Fear of Death itself

I had to surrender my fears to the Lord

Since then the Lord has given me a fresh boldness,

A clearer sense of direction,

and a peace that wasn't there before.

I still battle with these things but God gives me grace each day.

"Jesus came out of the grave and so will I"