



Glimpses of Glory | Doug Wekenman | 5.2.21
Weekly Study

S T A R T

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What was your favorite meal you've ever had? Where was it? What did you eat? Who were you with? Why was it so amazing?

S H A R E

Welcome to Week One of Wonder! In this brand-new series, we are relearning what it means to be in awe of who God is. Wonder leads to worship. Before we dive into the sermon, take some time to check in with your Group by answering these questions.

What is one word you would use to describe how you are currently feeling? Why did you pick that word?

What was the highlight of your week?

What is one thing you feel like God is showing you in your walk with him lately?

What is one way in which you experienced wonder this week?

G R O W

Read Psalm 8:1-4

In the passage you just read, David is singing a song of God's glory and how the glory of humanity on earth reflects God's glory.

When you look up at the night sky, what thoughts or feelings do you have about what you see?

Was there ever a time in your life where God used you to do something bigger than you ever thought you could do? If so, share it with your Group.

This week Doug walked us through the wonder that is found in creation. The wonder that surrounds us, the wonder that is beyond us.

In Psalm 8, we get a glimpse into the wonder David saw as he looked up into the night sky. He considers God's glory in the creation of the moon and the stars, how they are set in place perfectly. In David's day in age, he didn't have a giant telescope or have photos of our galaxy as we do now. Yet, as David looked up at the night sky, he saw God's intricacy in his design. A glimpse of just how big God must be to create something so intentional and majestic.

With everything David could see, he thought, who am I God that you are mindful of me? If God is so intricate and meticulous in the creation of the moon, stars, and planets, imagine how much care he put into creating you and me.

This week, Doug reminded us that our galaxy is just one of 200,000,000,000 galaxies. We are but a tiny dot within the galaxies, and yet our God created us so intentionally, giving us all that we see and experience on the earth—providing us with all that we need to survive. Every little detail is God's fingerprint, and with just one word, it was created. With just one word, the galaxies were created, and yet God spent seven days handcrafting us along with everything we experience on earth. There is not a single planet in all the billions of galaxies that is like earth. Doug mentioned that nothing is ordinary, and our God placed us in an extraordinary universe, filled with glimpses of his glory as if to remind us that he is THE Creator and we are his creation.

Wonder is to feel significant and small at the same time. We are extremely small compared to the billions of galaxies beyond us. God shows us how significant and how valuable we are to him that we would share in his glory both as his creation and within his creation. In verse 2 of

Psalm 8, David references that God uses infants and children to reveal his glory here on the earth.

We see all over the bible God using the underqualified, the weak, the least of these to display his glory through them. Every time this happens, it disarms the enemy leaving them powerless. God loves using unordinary people for extraordinary reveals of his glory. We may be small, but we can rest assured knowing that our Creator sees us, he knows us, listens to us, and loves us.

“Wonder informs your soul of the God beyond the beauty - that creation has a creator. Without wonder, you will miss the fullness of life. “

What is one way you can stay in a place of wonder this week?

What is one way you experience God in creation? How can you take some time to experience that this week?

M O V E

Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

How does this passage resonate with Doug’s message from Sunday?

The author of Ecclesiastes writes, “He has made everything beautiful in its time” (verse 11). In what way(s) does this reminder draw you deeper into wonder and closer to God?

The world has convinced the human race that this life is all we’re handed. And in response, we strive to build our platforms and brands with a famine mentality in full force. Putting all our focused efforts on temporary pleasures that have yet to satisfy the human desire. How many years has the human race existed? And how many of those years have the temporal gains actually fulfill what they promised? Albert Einstein once famously said, “insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.” And yet, that is exactly what we are doing. How often do you find yourself searching to fulfill an infinite hole in your heart with finite things?

In this passage, the author of Ecclesiastes reminds us that there is a time and season for everything. Why? Because "He has made everything beautiful in its time" (verse 11). No one can fathom or reconcile God's timing. The limited human mind can't comprehend His higher ways and wider thoughts. We, however, time and time again, prove we are the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve. Believing or thinking we know better than God and know what will ultimately bring us joy and satisfaction. It's impossible for temporary things made by human hands and thought of by human minds to give us complete satisfaction. Why? Because "He has also set eternity in the human heart, yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end" (verse 11).

We were created specifically to be in a relationship with our Heavenly Father, the only one who can satisfy human desire. To do life with Him and know Him deeply, including knowing and finding out more about ourselves and discovering our purpose on this earth. Yet we tend to look away towards the temporary things hoping that they'll fill us up. But Jesus is the only person and thing we need, securing our future with the Creator of the Universe. It is then we can begin to enjoy the wonder and mystery with a feasting over famine mentality.

What are some areas of your life you tend to strive in? How can the wonder and mystery of God's timing change that for you?

What are some temporary things you've put above Jesus? Why do you think you do that?

What is one practical step you can implement into your daily rhythm by spending time getting to know Jesus and placing this as the most important practice of your week?

P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

T O G O

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart.

- Ecclesiastes 3:11

