

1. PRAISE

Sermon Notes

Text: Psalm 19

Intro:

The Psalms are an invitation to pray

The Psalms teach us that we're not supposed to stuff our feelings, but we're also not supposed to let our feelings control us; we're supposed to pray our feelings.

Prayer begins with praise.

Psalm 19

Awe: A feeling of reverential respect mixed with fear or wonder; The feeling of being in the presence of something (or someone) vast and greater than the self.

When you experience awe, the most appropriate response is to praise the creator of all things.

1. Awe of Nature (v. 1-6)

Nature calls out to say, "there is a God!"

Romans 1:20

2. Awe of the Bible (v. 7-11)

Nature's revelation is limited. The Bible tells us about God's plan of salvation.

"Two things fill the mind with ever-increasing wonder and awe...the starry heavens above me and the moral law within me." ~Immanuel Kant

Conclusion:

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

- 1. When is the last time you experienced the feeling of awe? Why did it happen, and how did you respond?
- 2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

- Are you more "let it go" or "conceal, don't feel"? i.e. Do you tend to be expressive with your emotions, or more reserved? Do you think your expressiveness/non-expressiveness comes from family? Upbringing? Culture? Genetic make-up? Were you always this way? Do you wish you were different?
- 2. Read Psalm 19. What stands out to you? Other than awe, do you see any emotions in this Psalm? How does prayer help us with our emotional life?
- 3. Romans 1:20 reminds us that nature reveals God's "invisible qualities." If you had never read the Bible, what could you deduce about God from nature? What questions would remain?
- 4. When we come together for worship on a Sunday, what role do emotions play? How important is it that we "feel" God's presence? What does that feel like? Do you prepare yourself for praise & worship before church? How so? If not, why not?

Application:

1. Take time this week to write out (and pray) a prayer that expresses your awe of God, and praises him.

Prayer:

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