

Real God: Week 1 - Seeking the Real God

1. Facts about God.

a. God is not like you.

Isaiah 40:25-28 (ESV) *To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.*

b. Left to ourselves, we tend to reduce God to manageable terms

Romans 1:21-23 (ESV) *For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.*

c. God can be known as He reveals Himself

i. Nature

Romans 1:19-20 (ESV) *For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world,[g] in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

ii. His Word

John 5:37-40 (ESV) *37 And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, 38 and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent. 39 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.*

iii. His Son

Hebrews 1:1-3 (ESV) *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 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. 3 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,*

2. How Can we see the Real God?

Jeremiah 29:11-13 (ESV) *11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.*

Proverbs 2:1-5

My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

Application: Follow up questions.

- What comes to mind when you think about God?
- Do you, or have you in the past, compared God to you?
- What do you have in your life right now that you worship over God?
- How have you seen God revealed to you in Nature?
- How have you seen God revealed to you in His Word?
- How do you see God's characteristics through His son?
- The promise of Jeremiah 29:13 is an awesome one. How will you seek Him?
- What are you most looking forward to as we take this journey together?