

# RELATIONSHIPS

## Love God For Who He Is Week of January 10 , 2020

### Opening Options (Choose One Or More):

- How has God blessed you this week?

### Intro Discussion Questions:

- ***What are your thoughts on the following quote? "If God were small enough for me to comprehend, He wouldn't be big enough for me to worship!"***

### Read Sermon Summary:

This study looks at loving God for who He is! The first half of the message set the stage for understanding God as the One True God. Some of His attributes, characteristics, and activities are examined. However, there is no way one sermon could ever do justice to who God is! A non-exhaustive, but lengthy list is given that helps put into perspective why we love the Lord our God for Who He is! However, five things from the list are elaborated upon: God is Holy, God is Eternal, God is Love, God is Spirit, and God is Personal! Reasons are given as to why these things cause us to love God for Who He is!

### Read Main Scripture

- **Mark 12:28-34 (Emphasis on Mark 12:29)**

### The Main Points

- **We Love God for Who He is - God is Holy**
  - ***Read Isaiah 5:16 - But the LORD Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will show himself holy by his righteousness.***
  - The most basic word we have to describe God is holy. This is the unique quality of God's existence that marks Him off as separate and distinct from all else. Holiness includes the ideas of righteousness and purity, but it is more. Holiness belongs to God alone. It sets Him above us in majesty, power, authority, righteousness, and love. Persons or objects can be said to be holy only by virtue of being drawn into relationship with God!
    - ***Ask Question - In what ways has your relationship with God caused you to desire to live a more holy life? (To be holy as he is holy)***
- **We Love God for Who He is - God is Eternal**

- *Read Isa 26:4 - Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.*
- God is eternal. He has no beginning and no ending. All else begins and ends as an expression of the will of God, but God has always existed and will always continue to exist. The God of the Bible, Yahweh God, is not like the gods of men who can be destroyed. The God of the Bible is not man made!
  - **Ask Question:** *Since God is eternal, how does that bring you hope for eternity with him?*

- **We Love God for Who He is - God is Love**

- *Read 1 John 4:16 & 4:19 - 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 19 We love because he first loved us.*
- “God is love. ‘God is love itself’ is the nearest humans can get to making a non-symbolic statement about God. His love is coordinated perfectly with His righteousness. God's love is always righteous, and His righteousness is always marked by love. Love is the primary motivation behind revelation (John 3:16). God's love is expressed as His mercy in forgiving sinners and in rescuing or blessing those who do not deserve His attention. His love is expressed in grace, the love and power of God reaching to those who do not deserve His blessing.
  - **Ask Question:** *What is it about God’s love causes you to love him in return?*

- **We Love God for Who He is - God is Spirit**

- *Read Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence. If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.*
- God is spirit. He is not material or physical as we are. As spirit, He does not have the limitations of material form. This enables God to be with His people everywhere simultaneously. But here is another fantastic truth! As spirit, God chose to humble Himself and take on the form of human flesh, for a time, so He could make a way for us to have a loving relationship with Him.
  - **Ask Question -** *In what ways is your life impacted by the fact that the spirit of God brings the presence of God in your life 24/7?*

- **We Love God for Who He is - God is Personal**

- *Read 1 John 1:1-3*
  - *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched--this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*
- God is not a robot and neither are you!! He is not an impersonal force like gravity, exerting influence in some mechanical, automatic way. He has personal characteristics, just as we do. God is living, working in His world, and relating to His people. He is aware of what is going on, makes plans, and carries them out. He forms relationships and has purpose and will.

- **Ask Question** - *In what ways have you experienced the personal nature of God in your life?*

## Closing In Prayer

- Ask Question: What is the greatest challenge you are facing? Is there some way our group can help?
- Pray together over those requests.