Reflections on the Character of God

The reflection section has 5 scriptures that pertain to this week's aspect of God's character. Take one passage a day and reflect on it in the context you find. Note your insights.

The life response sections give you 2 more verses to ponder. These passages relate to your response to the name, title or attribute of God. Write down practical responses.

The Eternal God

Reflection: Psalm 135:13; Psalm 145:13; 1 Timothy 1:17; 2 Peter 3:8; Revelation 1:8
Life Response:
John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:1



A Discipleship Journey – A Call to Discipleship <u>The Disciple's Cause – June 6, 2021</u>

13 times in the gospels Jesus says "Follow Me"

The two most important questions for us to answer are:

- 1. What is God's goal in creating and ruling over this world?
- 2. How can I bring my life into alignment with that goal?

The primary goal of Jesus' life is to bring glory to The Father.

1 brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do." John 17:4

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Glory in the Greek is the word "doxa". The glory of God is the beauty and excellence of his perfection.

"God's glory is the perfect harmony of all of his attributes into one infinitely beautiful and personal being." - John Piper

God's passion for his glory is actually the essence of his love to us. God loves us not by giving us the ability to make much of ourselves but by giving us the ability to enjoy making much of Him!

Isaiah 48:11 - "My glory I will not give to another."

God is God! And because He alone is God, He is greatest good!

If God was not jealous for His own glory, he would be guilty of sharing his glory with something or someone that is <u>lesser</u>.

If God shared his glory with someone lesser, he would be unworthy of His glory, which means He would be an <u>idolator</u> and not God!

SDG - Soli Deo Gloria - To the Glory of God Alone

For His Glory:

God created us. - Isa. 43:6-7

God called Israel. - Jer. 13:11

God defeated Pharaoh at the Red Sea. - Ex. 14:4

God spared Israel in the wilderness. - Ez. 20:14

God restored Israel from exile. - Isa. 48:9-11

God the Father sent Jesus. - Romans 15:8-9

We are told to do good works. - 1 Peter 2:12

God forgives our sins. - Isa. 43:25

Jesus is coming again. - 2 Thes. 1:9-10

"The great end of God's works, which is so variously expressed in Scripture, is indeed but one; and this one end is most properly and comprehensively called the Glory of God." - Jonathan Edwards

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Community Group Discussion Questions

- 1) 13 times in the Gospels Jesus says "Follow Me". Does that offer still stand today? Practically speaking what does it mean to follow Jesus?
- 2) Looking at the 2 most important questions, are these questions you have considered before? Why or why not?
- 3) The WSC says "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." How do we "glorify God"? How do we "enjoy God"? How are these two related?
- 4) How would you describe God's glory to someone?
- 5) Pastor Daniel shared that "God's passion for His glory is the essence of His love to us." How is it loving to us for God to be concerned about His glory?
- 6) Is it possible for God to share His glory with another? Why or why not?
- 7) Honestly speaking, what has motivated you as a follower of Jesus Christ? How would that motivation change if you were focused on Soli Deo Gloria, the Glory of God alone?

As you close take some time in your group to pray in line with Habakkuk 2:14 "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." Pray for one another that we would reflect the glory of God wherever He has placed us. Pray that as a church we would be passionate about God's glory.