

KEY SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 3:8 But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day.

Psalm 139:7–10 I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! 8 If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. 9 If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, 10 even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.

Jeremiah 23:23–24 Am I a God who is only close at hand?" says the Lord. "No, I am far away at the same time. 24 Can anyone hide from me in a secret place? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?" says the Lord.

1 John 3:20 Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything.

Jeremiah 32:17 "O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you!

Proverbs 16:1 We can make our own plans, but the Lord gives the right answer.

Proverbs 16:9 We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.

Proverbs 19:21 You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail.

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is like a stream of water directed by the Lord; he guides it wherever he pleases.

Proverbs 16:33 We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.

START TALKING

Pastor Dave talked about how we live with things that we just cannot know. Yet, sometimes we don't seem to figure out until later in life. Can you share something that you didn't know or learned to do later than might be expected?

START DISCUSSING

Most of the message was discussion the fact that God is "holy other." In other words, God is absolutely transcendent and distinct, meaning He is utterly unique, beyond human comprehension, and completely different from everything else. The greatness of God is revealed to give us confidence in Him. God is able to do all he has promised. The following some of the attributes of God, discuss each one, and focus on how each attribute helps us to trust God, to love Him and to serve Him.

Timeless - Timeless in His being and sees all time vividly Read 2 Peter 3:8

Omnipresence - Exists everywhere at the same time, Read Psalm 139:7–10; Jeremiah 23:23–24

Omniscience - Knows all things without discovery Read 1 John 3:20

Omnipotence - Possess absolute power absolutely Read Jeremiah 32:17

Sovereignty -

Read Proverbs 16:1, 9; 19:21; 21:1; 16:33

Finally Take some time to discuss the differences between two key passages from the message. In the Isaiah passage God is speaking about all of history, from beginning to the end. In the Jeremiah passage God is speaking about his interactions with people moment by moment. They appear to be contradictory, but since both are true, we know that the problem is our ability to comprehend the coexistence of God's sovereignty and our free will.

Isaiah 46:5–11 "To whom will you compare me? Who is my equal? 9 Remember the things I have done in the past. For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me. 10 Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. 11 I will call a swift bird of prey from the east— a leader from a distant land to come and do my bidding. I have said what I would do, and I will do it.

Jeremiah 18:7–10 If I announce that a certain nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down, and destroyed, 8 but then that nation renounces its evil ways, I will not destroy it as I had planned. 9 And if I announce that I will plant and build up a certain nation or kingdom, 10 but then that nation turns to evil and refuses to obey me, I will not bless it as I said I would.