

THE WONDER OF THE ONE

There are certain verses in the Bible which seem short and simple, yet when you take a moment to ponder them, you realize that they are anything but! In fact, as you "unpack" these kinds of verses, even just a little bit, you see that the truth about life and the insight on God that they contain is incredibly deep. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, Ephesians 4:6 is such a verse. In it, the Apostle Paul uses only nine different Greek words (a total of 14 if you count the words he repeats) to describe God in the most wondrous of ways. This single passage was written to cause every heart to be in *awe* of God ... who He is, what He is like, what He is capable of doing, where He is right now, what He knows, and the scope of His impact. In Psalm 145:3, King David declared: *Our Lord is so great that His greatness is without limits and beyond measure*. Wow, what a statement! Today we're going to learn why this claim is absolutely true and how embracing this truth will shape the way we see and serve *THE ONE* who is the only true God.

There is one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:6)

- 1. (one) God Is ...
- 2. (all) God Impacts ...
- 3. (God) God Is ...
- 4. (Father) God Is Father Because He's ...
- 5. (over all) God Is ...

- 6. (through all) God Is ...
- 7. (in all) God Is ...

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

FOR THOUGHT & TALK

Take no more than 5 minutes to quickly review the main points from Pastor John's message. As you discuss the questions, don't expect to answer all of them. Just discuss the ones your group would most like to explore together. Remember, the goal of your small group is to grow together relationally, to apply God's Word to our daily living, and to pray for one another and our church.

- 1. Read aloud Ephesians 4:6 and Psalm 145:3 from several different translations and/or paraphrases. As you approach your group discussion of this message, because this single verse gives us such a profound and sublime look at God (The Wonder of THE ONE), start by praying aloud together and asking the Holy Spirit to help everyone in the group to see the greatness of our Lord the way both King David and the Apostle Paul viewed Him. Ask the Lord to guide you, and your group, to a place of "awe" and wonder as the discussion revolves around Him. What does it feel like to be in awe of God? Why is it important for believers to consistently be in awe of God? How do we come to a place in life where we are consistently in awe of God? Share a recent time when the wonder of God captured your soul.
- **2.** Read aloud Deuteronomy 6:4-7. Why are these verses such a big deal? How do the *oneness* aspect of God and the *trinity* aspect of God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) not contradict each other? How does realizing that God is Three-in-One cause us to have even greater respect for Him?
- **3.** God impacts everyone, everything, everywhere, all the time. How does He do this? How are you seeing and experiencing Him doing this in your own life?
- **4.** The Bible says there are three ways God is "the Father." He is father by virtue of His role as Creator, Sovereign King, and Redeemer. Describe each one of these roles. Why is it important for us to personally know and experience God in each of these ways?
- **5.** The Bible says that God is the Supreme Being. What is it about God that makes Him supreme? Romans 8:31 very clearly states that God, this Supreme Being, is <u>for</u> us. In what sort of ways is God for you? How have you been sensing that God is *for you* lately?
- **6.** When we think of God being all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present, how should each of those qualities of God shape the way we go about living and viewing God? Why is it important for us as believers to follow Jesus with a strong sense of anticipation?

03.26.23 - 17th in a series of messages, by Pastor John K. Nagle entitled, *Ephesians: Learn Truth, Live Truly*. For more information about Jesus or NCFF, visit us online at www.ncffchurch.org.