

Psalm 19

Revelation

Image Church // Summer in the Psalms// Week 4

Intro

Good morning Image Family, I hope that you're doing well!

One quick reminder! **VBS [slide]** is coming!

- June 27th-29th, family night on the 30th
- Also, I wanted to let you know something exciting, in order to best serve our church family, **we're going to be offering VBS for ages to 3 yrs and older!**
 - So **VBS** is for ages 3 to 5th grade!
- Make sure to sign up! We have a station where you can do that in the lobby!

One other thing- A few weeks ago Pastor Bryson and I got the chance to go and visit with our missions partners in Honduras- and we've been highlighting our partnership with them. **INTEREST SLIDE w/QR**

Well we have an opportunity to send a mission team there to do some work on their **training facility!** There's a big need to get this completed and we would really like to get a team there- so if you're interested, just scan the QR Code on the screen right now and put your name on the form and Pastor Bryson will follow up with more info!

- This is not a sign up for the trip, this is just hey I'm interested!
- Great opportunity here and one that will have an impact of you as well as the people there!

Alright, we're continuing our series called series called **Summer in the Psalms.**

If you have your bibles turn to Psalm 19... Psalm of David

With my kids I want them to experience me in 2 ways...

- Naturally in what I give them through experience and the environments I orchestrate around them...
- And I want them to experience me by what I say to them and what I teach them...

What you're going to see is 2 parts to this Psalm... **Common revelation and special revelation...** Both of these are life giving...

Psalm 19

1 The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the expanse proclaims the work of his hands.
2 Day after day they pour out speech;
night after night they communicate knowledge.
3 There is no speech; there are no words;
their voice is not heard.
4 Their message has gone out to the whole earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun.
5 It is like a bridegroom coming from his home;
it rejoices like an athlete running a course.
6 It rises from one end of the heavens
and circles to their other end;
nothing is hidden from its heat.

David is saying that creation communicates **Knowledge...**

Knowledge: not information but awareness... That as you reflect on the vastness of the sky, as you experience the incredible beauty of day and night, it gives testimony to the glory of God...

Not through audible language but through its very existence and intentional design they communicate!

Example:

- Been up on a mountain? Been to a breath taking place in nature?
- Sun rise, sunset- the way the sky lights up... *The times when you get your phone out and snap a pic and post it on insta!*
- A beautiful sky - Carolina blue- clouds in the sky that seem perfectly placed!
- The night sky- the stars the moon- Hait- less light pollution- blown away at the beauty!

All of this points to the glory of God as the creator... Every time you see or experience the beauty and complexities of nature, the colors, the texture, all of it...

There's a message that's being put forward without words... It's testifying to the incredible creator who spoke all of this into existence...

CS Lewis in *Meditations from a tool shed*...

The question is ***are you listening to this message without words?!?***
Are you seeing what lies behind? We're not good are this- if you want to see proof just ask your wife!

Apply this section: Worshiping in nature, allowing nature to orient our eyes and our perspective...

- Talk about what this looks like practically... *Pay attention*
 - Deer hunting...
 - Playing golf...
 - Going on walks... Vacation, the beach, mountains...
- ***Problem is*** these are things that distract us from God, when they should be things that point us to God!

CS Lewis: *Nature never taught me that there exists a God of glory and of infinite majesty. I had to learn that in other ways. But nature gave the word glory a meaning for me. I still do not know where else I could have found one.*¹

But this isn't all... Like the infomercial, wait there's more!

- Not only does God reveal Himself through nature but He also reveals Himself through His Word. *Nature is not enough alone.*

Then David moves to ***special revelation*** that comes through the Word of God...

Verse 7:

7 The instruction of the Lord is perfect,
renewing one's life;

The Word of God brings renewal...

- ***Renew:*** turn back, return... to bring back into original existence, function, position...

John Piper: *Christian life is a repeated process of restoration and renewal.*

Some of you are struggling... Some of you are in the midst of guilt and shame... You need renewal... This is what the Word of God does...

- Reorients and renovates our hearts... Turns us back to where we should be...

Many of yall are stay at home moms who never have an unoccupied moment throughout the day, or your day is busy from 6am to 12pm and it feels draining to try and add something else on your schedule but...

¹ CS Lewis, *The Four Loves*, Ch. 2

- For us as Christians, it is fundamental to our faith that the Word does this, BUT we struggle with how this practically works

Personal Example from mowing

- Freedom in Feasting
- Quality of Quantity (Mediation on truth)
- Intersection of Reading/Listening/Feasting

Big disconnect for many is that the first question that is asked when reading is “Where am I in the text?”

There is a difference between ***where am I in the text and what is the text about (ie. What does it say about God?)***

- We have to understand the purpose of the Bible
 - The Bible being about God and His plan for redemption is **FOR US** and ultimately what we need the most
 - 2 Tim 3:15
 - and you know that from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
 - You will often not find yourself in texts in the Bible if you are asking “where am I?” but what you will find is “what does this tell me about God and His plan for redemption through Christ”
- See this when you read Leviticus/OT... I don't get anything out of that...
- You're reading it and navel gazing- rather than reading it to see who God is...

The Bible is for you not about you...²

What you need is to see the main character- GOD- for who He is...

David continues in verse 7:

the testimony of the Lord is trustworthy, making the inexperienced wise.

The Word of God provides ***Wisdom***

So often we lean into what we think rather than what God says... It *gets us into trouble...*

The Word of God will always give you direction either ***explicitly*** or ***implicitly...***

Wisdom vs Knowledge:

- Many of you read for knowledge but don't step back to see the wisdom that comes from the things you know about...

Verse 8:

8 The precepts of the Lord are right, making the heart glad; the command of the Lord is radiant, making the eyes light up.

Precepts: Instruction. The instructions of the Lord are right and make your heart glad...

The instructions of the Lord are right... So when you lean into them and walk in light of them it will bring you joy!

Jesus would say in John 15:11: I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

Have you heard people say ***God doesn't want you to be happy He wants you to be holy?***

- This text shows us that holiness brings happiness!

² Bruce Frank, *More Desirable than Gold*.

God's Word is not a rule book, it is a guide... ***It is not oppressive, it's freeing***- it is clear and straightforward with what it means to submit to Him...

Here's the problem though... ***We are constantly faced with opposing lies that bring this into question...***

Lies we face

- Control
 - Don't give
- Fulfillment
 - Cohabitation/Sexual fulfillment
 - Time in the Word/too busy
- God can't use me
 - Guilt vs Conviction
- God doesn't care

David says that the command of the Lord is radiant, making the eyes light up.

He's saying that the Word of God reveals ***Truth***: understanding who God is, that He's the creator and that we exist because of Him...

The way to combat the lies of the enemy is to know the truth...

Example: Counterfeit money: The way that they identify counterfeit money, is not by knowing what it looks like... But by knowing what the real thing looks like...

- Same is true for us...
- Eph. 6- offensive weapon the Word...

Verse 9:

9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are reliable and altogether righteous.

10 They are more desirable than gold— than an abundance of pure gold; and sweeter than honey dripping from a honeycomb.

Ordinances: The Judgment of God, His determination right and wrong... He's highlighting the The Word of God...

And then he says: that the Word of God is ***more desirable than gold— than an abundance of pure gold; and sweeter than honey dripping from a honeycomb.***

The treasures for which humans strive so ardently, and the food which imparts such sweetness to the tongue, are both less desirable than the Word of God.³

Is that true for you? Is the Word of God like this for you? For some of you've not truly tasted to know that it's good... Others you've not seen the goodness because you've approached it the wrong way...

Verse 11:

11 In addition, your servant is warned by them, and in keeping them there is an abundant reward.

In light of who God is, and what He's called me to be I see who I am...

Verse 12

12 Who perceives his unintentional sins?

Unintentional sins...

- *Flesh this out...*

This leads David into a prayer...

³ Peter C. Craigie, *Psalms 1–50*, 2nd ed., vol. 19, Word Biblical Commentary (Nashville, TN: Nelson Reference & Electronic, 2004), 182.

A Prayer:

Cleanse me from my hidden faults.

13 Moreover, keep your servant from willful sins;
do not let them rule me.

Then I will be blameless
and cleansed from blatant rebellion.

Blatant rebellion... We do this a lot... He's wrestling in this, but it leads Him to God, not from God...

- This is the scandalous nature of the gospel... That though we sin, unknowingly and knowingly that we can come to God...

Cleanse me...

... Then I will be blameless be cleansed from blatant rebellion...

GOSPEL...

Some of you need to come before the Lord and say that this morning... you need to own this...

Might be in a spiritual drought and it could be because you're missing the magnitude of the gospel...

Some of you are slave to sin... in the midst of sin in your life... You need to pray this...

Would you embrace the cleansing of the gospel!!

Then David closes with verse 14:

14 May the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.

Would this be true of us...

And I love this, he lands at the end with Redeemer...

The one who created you, is the one who redeems you!

Conclusion [VAMP]

The entirety of Psalm 19 is a template

- The Word of God tells us who God is
- The commands of God renew us and give us wisdom
- And **lastly** David gets to himself in prayer/confession

Appeal to the Christian...

Appeal to the non christian...