

KNOWING GOD

GROUP NOTES

WEEK 3

OPENING QUESTION

Tell the story of one of the greatest gifts you've ever been given? What about a gift you've given?

SCRIPTURE

Read Psalm 65

BIG IDEAS

As we study Psalm 65 today, we're struck immediately at this song's celebratory, grateful tone. Where some psalms are dour, lamenting, or hopeful, this one is just glad. And with good reason. God is more generous than any of us have imagined. And the Psalmist wants all our hearts to see that.

>> *How has God been generous to you? Is that hard or easy to see? Why?*

This poem first sings about God's generosity with grace and mercy. Most of us have no problem realizing that we're not perfect. And, while compared to others we may look okay, compared to God we don't. Sin, selfishness, and shame are real. But before those emotions

>> *Read vv. 1-3. What is the singer so happy about? When has "iniquity prevailed" against you? How does this help you think/feel about that?*

God is also generous with His family – that is, He chooses us – us! – to be a part of it. Think about that for a moment. Think

about how you live in your house. Now imagine how God has invited to you live – to spread out and settle down – within His family.

>> *What is it going to take for you to move from feeling as if church is a place to church being your family?*

For God's family, God brings the full arsenal of His power to bear on their behalf. The work of God in creation and in redemption are all colluding for our astonishment at His generosity.

>> *Read vv. 5-8. What kinds of works are being described here? What is the purpose of these verses? What do you need from God right now? After reading this, do you think He can do it?*

Finally, God is generous with His provision. God delights to meet our needs. And, we can be assured of this because He's already met our greatest need in Christ. In Jesus, God has profligately cast His love upon us, assuring us that He can and will meet all our needs, if we ask Him.

>> *Have you trusted Jesus with your needs? How does the story of the gospel inform your opinion of God's generosity?*

PRAY

As you end today, pray for each others' needs, and agree to pray together all week for these needs.