

**I. Series Review/Previous Session**

What's so important about the Word?

Why do we emphasize the Word at Grace Fellowship?

**II. You Can't Know God without His Word**

**A. There is an accurate and true revelation of God in His word.**

1. **John 5:39 (NKJV)** – *You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*

**John 5:39 (CEV)** – *You search the Scriptures, because you think you will find eternal life in them. The Scriptures tell about me.*

2. **The Word of God reveals God!**

- a. His character.
- b. His nature.
- c. His purpose for us.
- d. His love and grace.
- e. His way of doing things.

**B. Many people have developed an image of God based on things other than the Word.**

1. **Quote: We are all beneficiaries of good, wise, and sound tradition.**

2. **Quote: We are all victims of poor, unwise, and unsound tradition.**

3. **Jesus' warning about tradition.**

**Mark 7:13 (NKJV)** – *making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do.”*

**Mark 7:13 (GNT)** – *In this way the teaching you pass on to others cancels out the word of God. And there are many other things like this that you do.*

**C. The Word of God will provide a true perception of God.**

- 1. The Word of God will establish who God is and what He is really like.**

**Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV)** – *having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone*

**Ephesians 2:20 (GNT)** – *You, too, are built upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, the cornerstone being Christ Jesus himself*

- 2. Sometimes our view of God is not something we discovered in the Word, but something that was programmed into us by others.**

Many possess a view of God that was handed down through tradition with no accurate interpretation of Scripture.

- 3. The Word of God will correct our perception of God as needed.**

- a. 2 Timothy 3:16 (NKJV)** – *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*
- b. Correction** – restoration to an upright or right state – a straightening up. *The Word of God will bring your perception of God to a right state.*

- 4. John Osteen's revelation of a healing Jesus.**

- 5. The God I see (Perceive) is the God I get.**

- a. If you only believe in a God that is at work to get you to heaven, that's all you will receive.**
- b. If your perception of God includes healing, deliverance, blessing, provision (based upon the Word), that's what you will be able to receive.**

c. **Contrast Mark chapter five and six.**

1) **Chapter five is filled with miracles.**

*The demoniac is delivered.*

*The woman with the issue of blood is healed.*

*Jairus' daughter is raised from the dead.*

2) **In Chapter six, the people of Nazareth cannot receive because of their incorrect perception of Jesus.**

*Vs 5 – He could do no mighty works there except He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them.*

3) Some of the people Jesus' encountered said He can, and He did. Others said He can't, and He didn't.

**Pastor's Note: *This is why we need to be sure our perception of God is accurately based upon what the Word says. The God I see is the God I receive.***

d. **Faith is connected to our view of God.**

*Jesus instructed us to have faith in God – Mark 11*

1) Some people are trying to have a faith that doesn't correspond with their God.

2) To have faith for salvation you must believe in a saving God.

3) To have faith for healing, you must believe in a healing God.

4) To have faith for provision, you must believe in a God who provides.

5) To have faith for all of these, you must first see it in the Word. The Word reveals God as savior, healer, provider and much more.

III. **Closing considerations**

A. **Three perceptions of God that are needed to receive by faith.**

1. **He is a good God!**

a. **Mark 10:18 (NKJV)** – *So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.*

b. **Psalms 84:11 (NKJV)** – *For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

**2. He is a gracious God!**

a. **Gracious** = courteous, kind, and pleasant

b. **His graciousness – the expression of His goodness is based upon his nature, not mine.**

*Sometimes acts of my nature are based upon their nature.*

*What we give is based upon what we received.*

*God's nature is gracious – He often gives to us when we have not given to him.*

**3. He is a generous God!**

**Matthew 7:9-11 (NKJV)** – <sup>9</sup>*Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup>Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? <sup>11</sup>If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!*

**B. The more we see and understand God through His word, the more we can exercise our faith to receive what He has provided for us.**