

Introduction to the 40-Days of Awe

Sunday Message: "We Were Made for Awe"

January 7, 2024

By Brent Knox

Icebreaker:

What does awe feel like? What inspires awe in you?

Sermon in Two Sentences:

When the awe of God diminishes, compromise begins.

When the awe of God grows, transformation begins.

General Discussion [Groups of 4]:

Read 1 Samuel 2:12-36, NLT.

1. What two things did Eli's sons do to corrupt their priestly office? See also Leviticus 7:22-25.
2. What does God expect of his priests (vv. 27-30)?
3. Why is Eli also responsible for the sins of his sons (see also 3:13)? Why do you think it was hard for Eli to take action? What action should he have taken? See Leviticus 7:25.
4. In verse 29, God asks the question, "Why? Why did you and your sons sin?" How does verse 30 answer the question "why?" Note: Some Bible versions use the word "despise." The Hebrew word can also be interpreted as "think lightly."
5. How does this story illustrate this principle: "When the awe of God diminishes, compromise begins."
6. In his message, Brent mentioned this principle: "We are created by God to be in awe." What were Eli and his sons in awe of? Consider this quote from Paul David Tripp as you answer the question.

"But as you participate and rejoice in the awesome display of creation, you must understand that these awesome things were not intended to be ultimate. They were not made to be the stopping place and feeding station for your heart. No awesome thing in creation was meant to give you what only the Creator is able to give. Every awesome thing in creation is designed to point you to the One who alone is worthy of capturing and controlling the awe of your searching and hungry heart."

--Paul David Tripp, "Awe"

7. How does Hebrews 12:25-29 inspire awe of God?

Application Discussion.

Fully join the 40-day journey.

Find access and details of the entire journey at hometownchurch.com/awe

8. What parts of the 40-Day journey do you believe will be the most helpful for you in growing in the awe of God?
 - a. Six Sunday messages
 - b. Daily devotional videos
 - c. Weekly memory verse
 - d. Early morning Zoom prayer
 - e. Fasting for 24 hours
 - f. 24-hour Zoom prayer chain. Sign up as a small group!
 - g. All-location worship night
 - h. Personal time spent with God in the Word and prayer
 - i. Small Group discussions and prayer

Please pray for one another that each would grow in awe of God during this journey.