Approaching God

Begin your time with an opening prayer

Take a moment to quiet your heart and ask God to help you experience his presence today. Ask Him to free you from any distractions as you begin to read and meditate on today's passages.

Today's Theme: God is <u>God</u>

God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things, both visible and invisible. He is infinite, eternal, and unfathomable, yet He reveals Himself to us through the universe He made and His infallible Word.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Slowly Read the Following Passages Start with Engaging the Text: Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words.

Deuteronomy 10:14-17

14 "Look, the highest heavens and the earth and everything in it all belong to the LORD your God. 15 Yet the LORD chose your ancestors as the objects of his love. And he chose you, their descendants, above all other nations, as is evident today. 16 Therefore, change your hearts and stop being stubborn. 17 "For the LORD your God is the God of gods and Lord of lords. He is the great God, the mighty and awesome God, who shows no partiality and cannot be bribed.

Isaiah 40:9-25

9 O Zion, messenger of good news, shout from the mountaintops! Shout it louder, O Jerusalem. Shout, and do not be afraid. Tell the towns of Judah, "Your God is coming!" 10 Yes, the Sovereign LORD is coming in power. He will rule with a powerful arm. See, he brings his reward with him as he comes. 11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young. 12 Who else has held the oceans in his hand? Who has measured off the heavens with his fingers? Who else knows the weight of the earth or has weighed the mountains and hills on a scale? 13 Who is able to advise the Spirit of the LORD ? Who knows enough to give him advice or teach him? 14 Has the LORD ever needed anyone's advice? Does he need instruction about what is good? Did someone teach him what is right or show him the path of justice? 15 No, for all the nations of the world are but a drop in the bucket. They are nothing more

than dust on the scales. He picks up the whole earth as though it were a grain of sand. 16 All the wood in Lebanon's forests and all Lebanon's animals would not be enough to make a burnt offering worthy of our God. 17 The nations of the world are worth nothing to him. In his eyes they count for less than nothing-mere emptiness and froth. 18 To whom can you compare God? What image can you find to resemble him? 19 Can he be compared to an idol formed in a mold, overlaid with gold, and decorated with silver chains? 20 Or if people are too poor for that, they might at least choose wood that won't decay and a skilled craftsman to carve an image that won't fall down! 21 Haven't you heard? Don't you understand? Are you deaf to the words of God- the words he gave before the world began? Are you so ignorant? 22 God sits above the circle of the earth. The people below seem like grasshoppers to him! He spreads out the heavens like a curtain and makes his tent from them. 23 He judges the great people of the world and brings them all to nothing. 24 They hardly get started, barely taking root, when he blows on them and they wither. The wind carries them off like chaff. 25 "To whom will you compare me? Who is my equal?" asks the Holy One.

Revelation 22:13

13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Meditation - GOD IS GOD Read the short essay from He Reads Truth

Whatever we think of when we think about God is, at the very least, incomplete. He is infinite, but our imaginations are limited. He is unfathomable, so our thoughts cannot plumb the depths. He is the Creator of everything, yet we are constrained by metaphors that come from the created world. The very idea that we might classify or categorize God is laughable. He cannot be tamed or studied. He is beyond our reach and beyond our understanding.

And yet we can know Him. He has graciously entered our world, time and time again, so that we might be His children and His true image-bearers. He was in the garden with Adam and Eve. He spoke to Noah, Abraham, and Moses. His presence filled the tabernacle and, later, the temple. He put on flesh and became one of us. And He has gifted His Spirit to His people, in order that we might know Him more intimately still. "The LORD had his heart set on your fathers and loved them. He chose their descendants after them—he chose you out of all the peoples, as it is today" (Deuteronomy 10:15).

We can know God because He has chosen to be known. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-present. He is loving and just, merciful and good, and a thousand other things beside. "For the LORD your God is the God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, mighty, and awe-inspiring God" (v.17). Theologians have made many a complicated list of God's attributes, filling thick volumes on shelves that occupy the libraries of this world. But those books amount to what we can know about God. We have been given an opportunity to go much deeper than that. We have been invited to love Him and be loved by Him—to know Him in a way that defies our limited capacity for knowledge and understanding and, in so doing, bring Him glory.

Whatever measure of knowledge we have about God is granted to us so that we might worship Him, not merely as admirers from afar but as dearly loved children.

(from the website: hereadstruth.com)

Daily Reflection Questions

- 1. What 1 or 2 verses of today's scripture passages <u>most</u> stood out to you? What was significant for you in those verses?
- 2. How would you briefly summarize what it means that "God is God" in your own words?
- 3. In what areas of your life right now do you most need to believe and trust in this particular attribute of God? How might your life be different if you were able to trust and truly believe that God was God?

Close in Prayer:

- What can I **REJOICE IN** as a result of today's study?
- What do I need to REPENT OF as a result of today's study?
- · What do I want to REQUEST FROM God today?