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 Omnipotent

God has unlimited power over all things at all times. However, He does not act contrary to His nature.

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.

Genesis 18:9-14

9 "Where is Sarah, your wife?" the visitors asked. "She's inside the tent," Abraham replied. **10** Then one of them said, "I will return to you about this time next year, and your wife, Sarah, will have a son!" Sarah was listening to this conversation from the tent. **11** Abraham and Sarah were both very old by this time, and Sarah was long past the age of having children. **12** So she laughed silently to herself and said, "How could a worn-out woman like me enjoy such pleasure, especially when my master—my husband—is also so old?" **13** Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, 'Can an old woman like me have a baby?' **14** Is anything too hard for the LORD ? I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

Psalm33:6-9

6 The LORD merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born. **7** He assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs. **8** Let the whole world fear the LORD, and let everyone stand in awe of him. **9** For when he spoke, the world began! It appeared at his command.

Jeremiah 32:26-27

26 Then this message came to Jeremiah from the LORD : **27** "I am the LORD, the God of all the peoples of the world. Is anything too hard for me?

Mark 4:35-41

35 That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." **36** Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. **37** A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. **38** Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" **39** He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. **40** He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" **41** They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

1 Corinthians 15:22-28

22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. **23** But each in turn: Christ, the first-fruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. **24** Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. **25** For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **26** The last enemy to be destroyed is death. **27** For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. **28** When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

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

"Is anything too difficult for the Lord?" This question has a clear, straightforward answer: No. Nothing is impossible with God. His omnipotence, His all-powerfulness, is perhaps one of the first things we learn about Him. It can also be a spiritual stumbling block for human understanding, in things both trivial and serious. Along these lines, you may have heard some form of this brain-teaser: "If God can do all things, is it possible for God to create a rock that is too big for Him to lift?" It's a question that suspends normal logic in an attempt to stump us, but as C. S. Lewis reminds us in his book The Problem of Pain, "Nonsense remains nonsense, even when we talk it about God."

In more serious matters—in times of grief, struggle, and loss—we wonder, Where is God in the midst of my pain? How could He let this happen? Like the disciples, we cry out, "Don't you care…?" (Mark 4:38). We echo Martha's sentiments from John 11, saying, "Master, if only you had been here…" (v.21). When we read these stories, we see them met with near-immediate fixes at the hand of Jesus. But we also know that God does not always stop the storm or raise the dead when we think He should. If God is able to do all things, why doesn't He "fix" all things, already? Why let hard things happen in the first place?

God holds power over all things, governs all things, and by Him all things hold together (Colossians 1:17). And that power, that impenetrable grip on the cosmos, sustains us through every wind and wave that comes our way, whether or not we remain on our feet. In time, we begin to understand His omnipotence in light of His other attributes. God can do anything, but He does not act against His own character or nature: His goodness and justice, His mercy and love.

While His omnipotence is a certain terror to those who oppose Him, it is a resounding comfort to His children; God is good and promises good to those who love Him. Nothing is impossible for Him, and nothing can prevent Him from achieving His good will.

(from the website: hereadstruth.com)

Daily Reflection Questions

1. What 1 or 2 verses of today's scripture passages *most* stood out to you? What was significant for you in those verses?

2. How would you briefly summarize what it means that "God is Omnipotent" 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 is omnipotent?

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?