

LIFE group notes

Introduction

Q1. What are your thoughts and expectations when someone suggests reading the Psalms?

Read Psalm 96:1-9

Q2. Pick out some words the Psalmist chooses to describe the LORD.

Discuss these words. What else do words like these get used to describe?

Let them sink in. How would you feel meeting in person someone who fits even some of these descriptions?

Does this change how you respond to God?

Read Psalm 96:10-13

Q3. How do you feel about the idea of God's judgement?

Look closely at the characteristics of God's judgement in v10 & v13

TIP: As with so much of the Christian life there is a need to retain balance in discussing judgement. Some of us may over-emphasize our guilt; others may take it too lightly. Seek to accept your great need at the same time as God's great willingness to meet it. Some verses that may help: Matt 18:12-14, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, 1 John 1:9.

Q4. Take time to consider what thoughts or ideas define how you think about the world.

If that's too big, consider the last week or even just today. What strong reaction have you had to something that happened? Do your ways of thinking stand up to the great picture of God the Psalmist is calling you (and me) to?

IN CONCLUSION

Confess any wrong perspective God has brought to your attention and ask for Him to replace it with a better understanding of his creation including ourselves.

Give the LORD praise for what he has done.

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