



Wednesday nights
Country Bible Church
God Who is Infinite and Eternal

Lesson Schedule:

- August 5 — Introductory Lesson (Also done on February 19)
Feb 26 — Welcome to the Weight of Majesty (video)
March 4 — Knowing the God Who is Incomprehensible (video)
Mar 11 — Discussion and Review — some teaching
August 12 — Knowing the God Who Cannot Change (video)
Aug 19 — Knowing the God Who is Infinite & Eternal (video)
Aug 26 — Knowing the God Who is Everywhere (video)
September 2 — Knowing the God Who is Almighty (video)
Sept 9 — Discussion and Review — some teaching
Sept 16 — Knowing the God Who is Knows All (video)
Sept 23 — Knowing the God Who is Rules All (video)
Sept. 30 — Knowing the God Who is Holy (video)
October 7 — Knowing the God Who of Wrath (video)
Oct 14 — Discussion and Review — some teaching
Oct 21 — Knowing the God Who is Good (video)
Oct 28 — Knowing the God Who is Love (video)
November 4 — Knowing the God Who is Patient and Zealous (video)
Nov 11 — Make up day

“The world becomes a strange, mad, painful place, and life in it a disappointing and unpleasant business, for those who do not know about God.”¹

Jeremiah 9:23–24

Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.”

¹ J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*, p. 19

 NOTES FROM THE VIDEO²
Biographical sketch – Hudson Taylor (9 minutes)

“The great need of every Christian worker is to know God.” – Hudson Taylor

Teaching

The infinity of God – God alone can never be measured or limited in any of His perfections. We are only in the shallows of the boundless ocean of God’s majesty.

EVERY attribute of God is infinite and immeasurable, incomprehensible, incalculable.

This is true of Jesus (God the Son):

John 1:14

Colossians 1:19

Colossians 2:9

Paul’s prison prayer – in Ephesians 3

- Ephesians is structured
 - o chapters 1-3 = Christian doctrine (what we must believe)
 - o chapters 4-6 = Christian duty (how we are to live)
 - o This is the biblical order
 - o We can’t skip doctrine and will ourselves to obedience
 - o Right thinking precedes right living
 - o Truth – studied, understood, applied – leads to obedience
- Ephesians prayer is not a private prayer
 - o It’s a prayer for all Christians
 - o The things Paul prays for are things we should plead for
- Nothing Paul prays for is “extra”
 - o These things are essential!
- The timing of Paul’s prayer – he’s in jail
 - o There’s a fullness even for Paul in prison
 - o Paul belonged to the infinite Savior

The prayer – Ephesians 3:14-21

- First request – God would give strength in order that they would experience this kind of fullness
 - o “that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man.”
 - o We came to Christ because we are weak (we were not strong!)
 - o Christian progress is not up, but down (humility – more aware of how needy we are and how sufficient Christ is – a wonderful expanse growing in our thinking)

² Media Gratiae, *Behold Your God: The Weight of Majesty*, Week 2 – “Knowing the God Who Cannot Change”

-
- A life of ever increasing dependence on an infinite Savior
 - God Himself is supplied to help us – the Holy Spirit is given!
 - To keep your mind focused, to keep your heart lively, to keep your will resolute, you need this work of the Holy Spirit
 - Paul gives some measures of how the Holy Spirit will strengthen us:
 - There is a magnitude of God’s glory – and that’s the measure he is choosing to use to supply all that you need as a Christian to be strengthened
 - It is not your worth or your need that is the measure
 - The measurement is the riches of His glory (His infiniteness)
 - Three privileges the Christian receives through this work (the purpose of His strengthening) (verses 17-19):
 - “so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith”
 - “that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge...”
 - “that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”
 - Reframing these three things:
 - First, that you may experience the indwelling presence of Christ in an ever greater degree
 - Paul is praying for an ongoing and growing and increasing awareness of Christ living in them!
 - But, for you to get this, you need faith... and God will strengthen this
 - Second, that you may comprehend the love of Christ
 - Third, that you may be filled with the fullness of God
 - Two paradoxes (apparent contradictions):
 - Paul prays that these “baby” Christians would know something that is beyond knowing (God’s love for them)
 - Paul also prays that they would be filled with an infinite fullness of God
 - This means, we NEED the limitless power of the power of the Spirit of God working in us, so that...
 - We would know a love that really is beyond knowing
 - Though we could never and won’t ever be able to explain this love, we CAN experience it! (know it experientially)
 - The **breadth**/width of Christ’s love – from the “religious Jews” to the outsiders/pagans
 - You cannot find one life on planet earth in all the history of humanity that is wide of the mark of hope that there is in the love of Christ
 - **Length** – how far does this love go?
 - John 13:1 – he loved them to the “end”
 - Hebrews 7:25 – he is able to save to the “uttermost”

- You cannot imagine a Christian life that has *repeatedly* come to God in brokenness and sin, that is not outside the reach of God's love
- **Depth**
 - How far has sin sunk us?
 - The worst life on earth is still surrounded by the 'common grace' of God
 - Imagine life apart from this... endless ages in Hell without this common grace
 - If you could measure this, we would begin to understand the **depth** of God's love
 - **Height**
 - You would need to go to Heaven to somehow measure the dignity of Christ – see Revelation 4 and 5
 - If you could measure this... and see the believer right next to Christ and made complete in Christ – we would begin to see this
- What does this have to do with living on the fullness of God?
 - The love of God understood and **experienced** will expand our understand of God and make room of our souls for God because it expels all other lovers
 - When we are strengthened to understand experientially a love we cannot explain, it is easier to make room for Christ and the fullness of God
- Why? What is the ultimate goal? What is the end?
 - Fullness is for the glory of the Savior
 - See Ephesians 3:20-21
 - What kind of fullness is this?
 - He shares His moral beauty with us
 - Fruit of the Spirit; Holiness
 - These permeate the Christian life
 - Out of His fullness we pour over other people
 - Your fullness (in God) is infinitely connected to God's reputation
 - An unbeliever can see a common person like them (needy, flawed) full because of God!
 - They know you're satisfied and constantly receiving from an invisible source
 - What kind of confusion comes when we say God is infinitely big, but we run around like starving beggars (ouch!)

A simple test:

- 1.) Is Christ all you really have?
- 2.) Is Christ all you really need?
- 3.) Can you say this: Christ is all I want ?

Interviews