Introduction – Sometimes “perception” is everything!

- **The importance of this study:**

  “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

  A.W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

  “We tend, by a secret law of the soul, to move toward our mental image of God.”

  A.W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

- **The invitation of a lifetime:**
How to see the real God, with 20/20 vision:

- Three facts to consider:

  1. God is not **LIKE YOU!**
     
     Isaiah 40:25-28
     Romans 11:33-36

  2. Left to ourselves, we tend to **REDUCE** God to **MANAGEABLE TERMS!**
     
     Romans 1:21-23
     Exodus 32:1-6

  3. God can only be known as He **REVEALS HIMSELF** to us!
     
     Through:
     
     1. **NATURE**
        
        Psalm 19:1-2, Romans 1:19-20

     2. **HIS WORD**
        
        John 1:1-4, 5:37-40

     3. **JESUS**, His SON
        
        John 1:14-18, Hebrews 1:1-3
One question for you:

*What must I do to see the real God and He really is?*

Answer:

SEEK HIM

Jeremiah 29:11-14a

How?

Proverbs 2:1-5

1 My son, if you will receive My words
And treasure My commandments within you,

2 Make your ear attentive to wisdom,
Incline your heart to understanding;

3 For if you cry for discernment,
Lift your voice for understanding;

4 If you seek her as silver
And search for her as for hidden treasures;

5 Then you will discern the fear of the Lord
And discover the knowledge of God.
Four indicators of seeing the real God with 20/20 vision:

- A Self Evaluation -

1. Those who know God have great **ENERGY** for God.

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<tr>
<th>Low Energy/Vague Knowledge</th>
<th>High Energy/Clear Knowledge</th>
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2. Those who know God have great **THOUGHTS** of God.

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<tr>
<th>Low Thoughts/Vague Knowledge</th>
<th>High Thoughts/Clear Knowledge</th>
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3. Those who know God show great **BOLDNESS** for God.

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<th>Low Boldness/Vague Knowledge</th>
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4. Those who know God have great **CONTENTMENT** in God.

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<th>Low Contentment/Vague Knowledge</th>
<th>High Contentment/Clear Knowledge</th>
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**Practical Application:**

1. Evaluate your current knowledge of God based on the assessment above and discuss it with a friend.

2. Meditate for two minutes on who God really is each time before you pray this week.
Introduction: The private battle every true follower of Christ must face and win.

- The Battle -

- The Barrier –

- The Breakthrough –

The importance of our study:

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

A.W. Tozer – Knowledge of the Holy

Thesis: Our distorted view of God is the root of all our problems.

The Process: A devotional study of select attributes of God.
Defining the goodness of God

- **Revealed to Moses:**
  - Moses’ **Request**: “Show me Your glory.” Exodus 33:18
  - God’s **Promise**: “All My goodness will pass before you.” Exodus 33:19
  - God’s **Answer:** Exodus 34:5-7

- **Packer’s Observation:**
  “Within the cluster of God’s moral perfections there is one in particular to which the term ‘goodness’ points – the quality which God specially singled out from the whole when proclaiming ‘all his goodness’ to Moses, He spoke of Himself as ‘abundant in goodness and truth’ (Exodus 34:6). This is the quality of generosity.”
  “Generosity expresses the simple wish that others should have what they need to make them happy.”

  J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

- **Tozer’s Definition:**
  “The goodness of God is that which disposes Him to be kind, cordial, benevolent, and full of good will toward men. He is tenderhearted and of quick sympathy… By His nature He is inclined to bestow blessedness and He takes holy pleasure in the happiness of His people.”

  A.W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

- **Scripture’s Declaration:**
  *For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord give grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

  Psalm 84:11
How does God reveal His goodness to us?

1. Through **NATURAL** blessings
   Psalm 145:7-9
   Psalm 145:16-17

2. Through **SPECIFIC** deliverances
   Psalm 107
   - Rescues us from our enemies.
   - Rescues us when we “drift” spiritually.
   - Rescues us from the “shadow of death.”
   - Heals our diseases.
   - Saves us in the midst of life’s storms.
   *Note the pattern verses: 1,8,15,22,31

3. Through **HIS** **SON**, Jesus
   - Jesus is the **PROOF** of God’s goodness.
     
     But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
     
     Romans 5:8
   
   - Jesus is the **GUARANTEE** of future goodness.
     
     He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?
     
     Romans 8:32
How are we to respond to God’s goodness?

1. **REPENT** and receive God’s greatest good gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

   *Or do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, forbearance, and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?*

   Romans 2:4

2. **SURRENDER** your life and future fully to the lordship of Christ.

   *Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.*

   Romans 12:1

3. **CLAIM** God’s promise that you will NEVER miss out on any good thing as long as you live.

   *For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

   Psalm 84:11

**Application:**

1. Take five minutes before you pray each time this week and list:
   - 3 Specific blessings
   - 1 Specific deliverance

2. For more in depth study, read *True Spirituality, by Chip Ingram:*
   Section 1 – *How to Give God What He Wants the Most*
Introduction: In flight - Hong Kong to Beijing

Question: What makes you think your god is better than everyone else’s god?

Answer: The God I worship . . .

- . . . is before ALL things. Colossians 1:17, Psalm 90:2, Revelation 1:8, 1 Timothy 6:16
- . . . created ALL things. Genesis 1:1, John 1:3, Colossians 1:16
- . . . upholds ALL things. Hebrews 1:3, Colossians 1:17
- . . . is above ALL things. Ephesians 4:6, Isaiah 45:5-12
- . . . knows ALL things. Isaiah 46:10, Psalm 139:4,6
- . . . accomplishes ALL things. Isaiah 14:24 & 46:10, Ephesians 1:11
- . . . is in control of ALL things. Job 42:2, Romans 8:28
  - earthly kings Proverbs 21:1, Revelation 19:16
  - human events Daniel 2 & 7, Psalm 33:9-11
  - good angels Colossians 1:15-16, Revelation 4:8
  - Satan & bad angels Job 1:6, Ephesians 1:21, Philippians 2:10

In a word, I worship the Sovereign God of the universe.
Defining the sovereignty of God:

- **Sovereign** = *adj.* (1) above or superior to all others; chief; greatest; supreme  (2) supreme in power, rank, or authority  (3) of or holding the position of ruler; royal; reigning  (4) independent of all others  (5) excellent; outstanding – *n.* (1) a person who possesses sovereign authority or power; specific, a monarch or ruler

- Synonymous meaning = ruler, ultimate authority, “in control,” King of kings, Lord of lords, without equal, without limitation in any way, the only absolutely free being in the universe.

The sovereignty of God is that which separates the God of the Bible from all other religions, truth claims, or philosophies.

When we say God is sovereign, we declare that by virtue of His creatorship over all life and reality, and His all-knowing, all-powerful, and benevolent rule, that He is in fact the Lord of all lords, King of all kings, and in absolute control of time and eternity.

Nothing will come into my life today that He did not either allow or decree for my ultimate good.
How does God reveal His sovereignty to us?

- **Through His TITLES** - SOVEREIGN LORD, MOST HIGH GOD, ALPHA & OMEGA, KINGS OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS

- **Through His PROMISES**
  - Romans 8:28-30
  - Philippians 2:9-11

- **Through PROPHESY**
  - Daniel 2:27
  - Isaiah 44:6-8
  - Daniel 7-12 (kingdoms predicted)

- **Through CHRIST**
  - His supernatural birth
  - His perfect life - fulfilled 100s of prophecies
  - His Messianic teaching
  - His willful death and miraculous resurrection
  - His ultimate reign
  - Galatians 4:4, Matthew 2:3-6
  - Matthew 4:14; Matthew12:15-21
  - John 8:48-58
  - John 10:17-18
  - Acts 1:9-11; Revelation 19:11-16

**Two questions the sovereignty of God raises:**

1. If God is sovereign, why did/does He allow evil, pain, and suffering? *(The Problem of Pain – C.S. Lewis)*

2. If God is sovereign over all people and events in history, doesn’t this make a sham of human responsibility? *(Chosen but Free – Norman Geisler)*
How must we respond to the sovereign God?

1. **BOW** before the King of the universe.  
   Philippians 2:9-11
   
   **Application:** Absolute **SURRENDER** of all you are and all you have!

2. **BELIEVE** all that comes into your life is either allowed or decreed by a good God who will use it for your benefit.  
   Romans 8:28-29, Genesis 50:20
   
   **Application:** Absolutely refuse to **WORRY**!

3. **BEHOLD** in awe the mystery and majesty of His kind, compassionate, just, and sovereign rule of all that is or will ever be.  
   Romans 11:33-36, Genesis 50:20
   
   **Application:** **WORSHIP** God for who He is, not merely for what He has done!

**Application:**

1. Share the greatest comfort you experience right now because of the sovereignty of God, with a friend or family member.

2. Take some time to look up and read the passages in these notes.

3. For more in depth study, write out the passages and then your response in prayer.
Defining the Holiness of God:

“We know nothing like the divine holiness. It stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible and unattainable. The natural man is blind to it. He may fear God’s power and admire His wisdom, but His holiness he cannot even imagine.”

A. W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

- Root Word: to divide, to mark off, to set apart from all else; it’s the opposite of *profane* – or to be common or ordinary – to be holy is to be different, distinct, or unique from the common or ordinary.

- The Holiness of God is that which divides Him from everyone and everything else. It is the quality of God being different, distinct, unique – one of a kind.

*Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you -- majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?*

Exodus 15:11

- God’s Holiness refers to both His *majesty* and *moral purity*. Holiness is the absolute absence of evil (1 John 1:5) and encompasses and defines all that is pure, whole, righteous, and healthy in the universe.
How does God reveal His holiness to us?

- **Through SUPERNATURAL ENCOUNTERS**
  - Moses’ life  
  - Isaiah’s crisis  
  - Exodus 3  
  - Isaiah 6

- **Through PLACES**
  - The burning bush
  - The Red Sea
  - The Tabernacle
  - Solomon’s Temple
  - The Church gathered
  - Heaven
  - Exodus 3
  - Exodus 14
  - Exodus 25
  - 2 Chronicles 3
  - Acts 3:23-31
  - Revelation 4

- **Through the LAW**
  - 10 Commandments
  - Leviticus
  - Deuteronomy

- **Through the PROPHETS**
  - Isaiah
  - Jeremiah
  - Zechariah

- **Through His WRATH and JUDGMENT**
  - Old Testament: Achan
    - Israel’s Diaspora
    - Nehemiah 1
  - New Testament: Ananias & Sapphira
    - Acts 5
    - 1 Corinthians 11

- **Through His SON**
  - a holy birth
  - Isaiah 7:14
  - a holy life
  - John 8:46
  - a holy sneak preview
  - Mark 9:2-10
  - an unholy death
  - 2 Corinthians 5:21
  - a holy resurrection
  - John 20:26-31
  - a holy ascension
  - Hebrews 4:14-16
  - a holy priesthood
  - Hebrews 9:11-28

- **Through His PEOPLE**
  - Then:
  - Isaiah 6:1-6
  - Now:
  - 1 Corinthians 6:18-20
God’s holiness raises two important questions:

1. If God is so holy that He cannot even gaze at sin, how can sinful people like us have a relationship with Him?

   For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man/ though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the earth of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

   Romans 5:6-10

2. If trusting in Christ’s work on the cross blots out our sin before God and we are holy in His sight, why do we keep on sinning?

   - **Justification:** POSITIONAL holiness POINT-IN-TIME status with God

   - **Sanctification:** PROGRESSIVE holiness ONGOING improvement

   - **Glorification:** PERMANENT holiness We are FINALLY like Him
How must we respond to the holiness of God?

- It’s a **DECISION** we make.  
  Hebrews 12:14

- It’s a **COMMAND** we obey.  
  1 Peter 1:13-16  
  Hebrews 13:4

Prayer for the week

O Lord God, holy and pure, awesome in majesty, as I consider Your perfection, grant that I might commit to holy ways, think holy thoughts, live in holy obedience, and reject evil with a holy attitude.

Let me hear the tender conviction of Your Spirit and help me remember that You are jealous for Your holiness. Because of Your love, You see the pain our sins will bring us, and You long to rescue us. So that You name never be profaned in my life, You have my permission to do whatever You need to do to make me holy. In Jesus’ name, Amen.
**Introduction**: What is the biggest challenge you’re facing in your life right now?

“To believe actively that our Heavenly Father constantly spreads around us providential circumstances that work for our present good and our everlasting well-being brings to the soul a veritable benediction.

Most of us go through life praying a little, planning a little, jockeying for position, hoping but never being quite certain of anything, and always secretly afraid that we will miss the way. This is a tragic waste of truth and never gives rest to the heart.

There is a better way. It is to repudiate our own wisdom and take instead the infinite wisdom of God. Our insistence upon seeing ahead is natural enough, but it is a real hindrance to our spiritual progress.

God has charged Himself with full responsibility for our eternal happiness and stands ready to take over the management of our lives the moment we turn in faith to Him.”

* A. W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

What a difference it would make in life’s most difficult times if we could believe that God is “all wise!”

**Question**: How can we learn to rest and trust in the wisdom of God?
Defining the wisdom of God:

- **Definition:** “that attribute of God whereby He produces the best possible results by the best possible means” - Berkhof

- **Definition:** “the quality of being wise; power of judging rightly and following the soundest course of action based on knowledge, experience, and understanding.” Root words – ‘to see, to know’ - Webster

“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

1 Timothy 1:17

“Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!”

Romans 11:33

“Wisdom, among other things, is the ability to devise perfect ends and to achieve those ends by the most perfect means. It sees the end from the beginning, so there can be no need to guess or conjecture…

All God’s acts are done in perfect wisdom, first for His own glory, and then for the highest good of the greatest number for the longest time…Not only could His acts not be better done: a better way to do them could not be imagined.”

A. W. Tozer, Knowledge of the Holy
How has God revealed His wisdom to us?

- **Through CREATION**
  Psalm 104:24

- **Through PROVIDENCE**
  Psalm 33:10-11

- **Through REDEMPTION**

  We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God’s wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified to the Lord of glory. However, as it is written:

  What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard,  
  And what no human mind has conceived” –  
  That things God has prepared for those who love Him.

  These are the things God has revealed to us by His Spirit.  
  The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.  
  1 Corinthians 2:6-10

- **Through His SON**

  It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness, holiness, and redemption.  
  1 Corinthians 1:30
How must we respond to the wisdom of God?

- We must **LEARN** to live wisely!  
  Ephesians 5:15-17

**HOW do we do that?**

1. We must **REVERENCE** God’s ways.  
   Proverbs 1:7; Job 28:28

2. We must **READ** and **UNDERSTAND** His Word.  
   Psalm 119:97-100
   2 Timothy 3:15-17

3. We must **ASK** for it.  
   James 1:5; Colossians 1:9

4. We must learn to **TRUST** Him completely…

   …that all that comes our way is from the hand of a **good** and **loving** God who 
   **knowing** all things actual and possible, is exerting His unlimited **power** to execute 
   the best possible outcomes, by the best possible means, to fulfill the highest 
   possible purposes.

**Application:**

1. What circumstance in your life seems to defy God’s wisdom?

2. Pray that God will help you turn that circumstance back to Him and trust that He 
   knows what’s best.

3. Look for opportunities this week to encourage and pray with others.
Introduction: Two questions - that disturb believers and unbelievers alike

1. Why do bad things happen to good people?

2. Why do good things happen to bad people?

The real issue is . . . “Life is not fair!”

The deeper question is . . . “Does that mean God’s not fair?”

A Biblical World View

- **Creation**
  - Genesis 1-2

- **Life with God in a Perfect World**
  - Genesis 3

- **Life in a Fallen World**
  - First Judgment
  - Final Judgment
  - Revelation 20

- **Life with God in a Perfect World**
  - Revelation 21

- **Eternity**
Defining the justice of God

- Revealed through Abraham

  “Far be it from you to do such a thing— to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

  Genesis 18:25

- Revealed through the Psalmist

  “Clouds and thick darkness surround Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.”

  Psalm 97:2

“Justice embodies the idea of moral equity… Judgment is the application of equity to moral situations and may be favorable or unfavorable according to whether the one under examination has been equitable or inequitable in heart and conduct.”

  A. W. Tozer - Knowledge of the Holy

“. . . God’s work as Judge is part of its witness to His character . . . It shows us also that the heart of the justice which expresses God’s nature is retribution, the rendering to men, what they have deserved; for this is the essence of the judge’s task. To reward good with good, and evil with evil, is natural to God. So, when the New Testament speaks of the final judgment, it always represents it in terms of retribution. God will judge all men, it says, ‘according to their works’.”

  (Matthew 16:27; Revelation 20:12)

  J. I. Packer - Knowing God
How does God reveal His justice to us?

1. Through the **NATURAL** order  
   Romans 1:18-20

2. Through the **HUMAN HEART**  
   Romans 2:15-16
   
   “These, then are the two points I wanted to make. First, that human beings, all over the earth, have this curious idea that they ought to behave in a certain way, and cannot really get rid of it. Secondly, that they do not in fact behave in that way. They know the Law of Nature; they break it. These two facts are the foundation of all clear thinking about ourselves and the universe we live in.”
   
   C. S. Lewis

3. Through His role as **JUDGE**
   Hebrews 12:23  
   2 Timothy 4:8  
   John 5:22

4. Through the **CROSS**  
   Romans 3:25-26
   
   For Christ also died for sins, once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit…”
   
   1 Peter 3:18
5. Through the promise of **ETERNAL** retribution
   - For Believers  
     1 Corinthians 3:10-15
   - For Unbelievers  
     Hebrews 9:27

**How are we to respond to God’s justice?**

1. **CHOOSE** to embrace Jesus today as your Savior rather than meet Him as your righteous Judge later.
   - John 5:22-24
   - 1 Peter 3:18

2. **REFUSE** to take revenge when treated unjustly knowing God and God alone is judge.
   - Romans 12:17-21

3. **PONDER** deeply your time, talent, and treasure in view of the Judgment Seat of Christ and the injustices in our world.
   - 1 Corinthians 3:10-15
   - 2 Corinthians 5:10

**Application:**

1. Pray and ask God to reveal if you need to forgive anyone who has treated you unjustly.

2. Pray and ask God if you need to ask anyone for forgiveness because you have treated them unjustly.

3. What injustice in our world bothers you to the point of doing something about it? Will you? When? How?
Introduction - Three facts about love

• **Fact #1:** It’s a universal need - Everyone is looking for love!

• **Fact #2:** There’s a universal solution - God loves all people everywhere and longs to meet the deepest needs of every heart for love!

• **Fact #3:** There’s a tragic disconnection - Even so, most people remain starved for love… for three primary reasons:

  1. They don’t know God loves them.

  2. They know of God’s love, but have not received it.

  3. They have received God’s love, but don’t know how to experience it in daily life.

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called the children of God! And that is what we are!

1 John 3:1
Defining the love of God

- **Definition** – God’s love is His holy disposition toward all that He has created that compels Him to express unconditional affection and selective correction to provide the highest and best quality of existence both now and forever for the objects of His love.

- **Characteristics of God’s agape love include:**
  - It is a **GIVING** love  
  - It is a **SACRIFICIAL** love  
  - It is an **UNCONDITIONAL** love  
  - It is a **BOUNDLESS** love

- Love is giving another person what they need the most, when they deserve it the least, at great personal cost.

- **God’s love for you means . . .**
  1. His thoughts, intentions, desires, and plans for you are always for your good and never for your harm.
  2. He is kind, open, approachable, frank, and eager to be your friend.
  3. He emotionally identifies with your pain, joy, hopes, and dreams and has chosen to allow your happiness to affect His own.
  4. He takes pleasure in you just for who you are totally apart from your performance and/or accomplishments.
  5. He is actively and creatively orchestrating people, circumstances, and events to express His affection and selective correction to provide for your highest good.
God reveals His love to us through . . .

**CREATION** - He made you for Himself.  
Genesis 1:26-27, Colossians 1:16

**PROVIDENCE** - He shows His kindness to all.  
Matthew 5:44-45, Acts 17:24-27

**INCARNATION** - He is proactively pursuing you.  

**DISCIPLINES** - He chastises us to protect us from self-destructive behavior.  
Hebrews 12:6

**INDWELLING** - He supernaturally pours His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.  
Romans 5:5

**JESUS** – The Second Person of the Trinity demonstrated the nature of God’s love for us.

- Jesus’ **LIFE** modeled compassion, grace, and truth  
  John 1:14
- Jesus’ **TEACHING** explained God’s love  
  Luke 15
- Jesus’ **DEATH** proved the extent of God’s love  
  1 John 3:16, Romans 5:8

“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”  
Romans 5:8

An object’s value is always determined by the price paid for it.  
To God, you are worth the price of His Son’s death in your place.
How must we respond to God’s love?

1. We must **RECEIVE IT** by faith in our hearts. John 3:16
   
   Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.
   
   John 1:12

2. We must **BELIEVE IT** by faith in our minds. 1 John 4:13-16
   
   For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
   
   Romans 8:38-39

3. We must **SHARE IT** by faith through our choices and decisions.

   Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

   1 John 3:18

**Application:**

1. What next step would help you experience God’s love and pass it on this week?

2. Choose to do one small act of kindness every day this week and see God work.
**Introduction: What’s the source of your hope?**

1. We all depend on something or someone to “hold us up” inside.

2. When that something or someone is “coming through for us” we experience a sense of peace, satisfaction, and optimism about the future.

3. When that something or someone “fails to come through for us” we experience a sense of anxiety, dissatisfaction, and ultimately despair.

- **Conclusion:** It seems that the secret to a life of unending joy and peace is to find something or someone who will “come through for you” 100% of the time in any and every situation forever.

- **The Solution:** Lamentations 3:21-24
Defining the faithfulness of God

- **Definition** = “Steadfast in affection or allegiance – loyal.

- **Synonyms** – Dependable, trustworthy, loyal, staunch, resolute, constant, reliable, true to one’s word, keeps one’s promises, true to and consistent to one’s character, someone “who comes through for you.”

Why is God able to be faithful 100% of the time?

1. He is **all-knowing** – He is never caught off guard. Romans 11:33-36
2. He is **all-powerful** – He never encounters anything or anyone who can thwart His plans or purposes.
3. He is **holy** – He is pure, honest, full of integrity, unable to lie, and therefore, is always consistent with His character and His Word. Isaiah 6:1-6
4. He is **eternal** – He is not affected by space or time; He knows the end from the beginning. Psalm 90:2
5. He is **omnipresent** – Nothing can happen outside the sphere of His influence. Psalm 139:7-11
6. He is **immutable** – He never changes; is never different then He is now, He is never in a bad mood, and never has a bad day. Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8

“All of God’s acts are consistent with all of His attributes. No attribute contradicts any other, but all harmonize and blend into each other in the infinite abyss of the Godhead. …He is at once faithful and immutable, so all His words and acts must be and must remain faithful.”

A.W. Tozer – *Knowledge of the Holy*

- **Summary**: God is 100% faithful to His Word, His promises, His people, and His character because He cannot be otherwise. **He will never let you down!**
How does God reveal His faithfulness to us?

- Through His **CREATION**
  Psalm 119:89-90; 145:13-6

- Through His **PEOPLE**
  - The Patriarchs
    Genesis 12:1-3
  - David
    Psalm 132:11
  - The Church
    Matthew 16:18

- Through His **CHARACTER**
  - The Father
    Numbers 23:19
  - The Spirit
    Galatians 5:23
  - The Son
    Revelation 19:11

- Through His **WORD**
  Isaiah 55:10-11
  - His Word is true
    John 17:17
  - He keeps His covenants
    Deuteronomy 7:9
  - He keeps His promises
    Hebrews 10:23
  - He fulfills His predictions
    Isaiah 42:8-10

- Through His **SHAPING** of our lives when . . .
  2 Corinthians 12:9-10
  - We are weak
  1 Corinthians 10:13
  - We are tempted
  1 John 1:9
  - We sin
  2 Timothy 2:11-13
  - We utterly fail
How can we respond to God’s faithfulness?

1. **Put** your **PAST** behind you today!

   *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

   1 John 1:9

2. **Bring** your **PRESENT** problems, pains, and failures to Jesus today!

   *Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.*

   Matthew 11:28-30

3. **Put** your **HOPE** for the future in the One who will never let you down!

   *This is what the Lord says: “Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and shoes heart turns away from the Lord. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”*

   Jeremiah 17:5-8

**Application:**

1. What in your past needs to be put behind you?

2. What present circumstance do you need to bring to Jesus today?

3. What reminder will you establish so you continually put your hope in God? Do you need to ask someone to help you?