

Home Group Notes

Psalm 19

How and why God shows himself to people

1. Psalms aren't just praising the Lord and calling out in lament. They are also reminding ourselves/one another about what is good and true. Psalm 119 is an example. Psalm 19 is a shorter example and a favourite psalm for many people.

Think of the ways in which God reveals himself to people. Say them to one another. How many between you? Which would be your 'top two' if someone asked how God shows himself to us?

2. Read Psalm 19

What are the 'top two' as far as David is concerned?

3. Why might the skies reveal God's glory?

How might the night skies particularly point to God's workmanship?

4. From Psalm 19v3-4, what are the advantages of the skies as one of God's ways of showing his glory to humans?

5. It is a psalm of David, but the main context for us New Testament people is: **Read Romans 10v14-18**. Paul is discussing how to reach those who have yet to believe in Jesus. He says they need people to tell them the message, but also points out that everyone has heard (18) and quotes Psalm 19. Do you agree with the idea of 'general revelation', i.e. God has revealed himself to everyone?

6. How can people hear God's voice? Romans 10 says what?

People going out with the good news is

unnecessary beautiful cringeworthy no big deal

7. The same idea of God's general revelation through his creation is here: **Read Rom. 1v18-23**. Has the created order caused you to glorify God? Or to turn against God? Or to worship the creation itself or its creatures?

8. Look at Psalm 19v4c-6. Some might think the sun is the main character in the daytime sky. How do these verses say the sun is a part-player? Who is the wedding-planner? The race organiser?

9. **Reread 19v7-10** What is the second way in which God reveals himself to people? How is this a help (7,8)?

10. What are the advantages and value of this type of self-revelation of God compared with others? (9)

11. In v1-6 it is only the least specific Hebrew name for God that is used (El) and only once. In v7-10 the personal name for God (Yhwh) is used seven times. Is scripture a more personal revelation?

12. Do you value the scriptures like v10? How could you?

13. What commitment to Bible reading will you make this Lent?

14. **Reread v11-14** Are you good at taking and receiving the warnings in Scripture? Why? Why not?

15. V12 talks of speculative mistakes or slip-ups. How susceptible are you to enjoying speculation regarding the message of the Bible?

16. Are people presumptuous in their response to God's self-revelation through Scripture? Are you? If the best response is innocence (12,13), how can we be innocent in our responses?

17. What good responses are summed up in v14?

18. Why does the Lord look for these types of responses when he shows himself to humankind?

Prayer Points

Give thanks for the ways in which God shows his glory and reveals himself to all humankind

Give thanks that the Lord is looking for a good response from everyone

Pray for the young people of our church and of our land

Pray for our search for a new Youth and Schools worker

Pray for our preparations for Lent and Easter, Poynton Cross, 4 Points

Pray for our Brightstars and WLTDO toddler groups

Pray for Living Well for those living with dementia and their carers

Pray for our Readers and retired clergy in their ministry of the word, leading/preaching at services, leading youth groups/ home groups