

Terrace Studies Term 2 (part 2), 2016

Getting to know God

Naomi & Ken Noakes

INTRODUCTION

Getting to know our God is one of the most important, exciting and humbling endeavours that we can undertake. The God who made the world and us hasn't just left us to flounder around by ourselves. He has revealed who He is and He has made it possible to know Him.

As we spend the next four weeks discovering the character of our God, our prayer is that you might be uplifted by His glory, humbled by His holiness, inspired by His sovereignty, comforted by His love, awed by His justice and overall led to praise the amazing God that we can love, know and serve.

Knowing God is no simple task and indeed we can never fully know Him. Be that as it may, God has said that He has revealed all that we need in order to know Him. If you are up for the challenge to do some solid thinking, you will find it unmeasurably beneficial. No other relationship or task we are part of, will lead to such rewards.

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy - to the Only God our saviour be glory and majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore. Amen (Jude 24-25)

Naomi and Ken

The One and Only Trinitarian God

1. If someone asked you who God is and what he is like, what would you say?

2. Read the following verses and in the tables below note what each teaches about the identity or character of God. (It might look like a lot- but it's so encouraging- so give it a go!)

Verses	God's identity and character
Exodus 3:14-15	
Exodus 15:11	
Exodus 34:5-7	
Numbers 23:19	
Deuteronomy 6:4, 13-15	
1 Kings 18:21, 36-39	
Isaiah 43:10-13	
Isaiah 44:6-8	
Isaiah 45: 5-7, 18-19, 21-25	
Isaiah 46:9-11	
Jeremiah 10:10	
Malachi 3:6	
Mark 12:29-30	
1 Cor 8:4-6	
1 Tim 2:5	
Rev 4:8-11	
Rev 21:6	

- 1) Try writing a summary sentence on what you learnt about the One and Only True and living God.

Verses	God's identity and character
Gen 1:2, 26	
Matthew 28:19	
John 1:1-3, 14, 18	
John 5 :19-23	
John 10:30	
John 14:6-7, 11, 16-17a	
Acts 2:32-33, 38	
2 Corinthians 13:14	
Galatians 4:6	
Col 1: 15-16	
1 Peter 1:2	
2 Peter 1:21	
Hebrews 1:3, 8	
Rev 1:4-5	

- 2) Try writing a summary sentence about what you learn about God as three persons.

- 3) What response do you feel after being reminded
- That God is the One and Only true and living God?
 - That God is persons - Father, Son and Spirit?

Spend some time praising God for who He is.

The One and Only Trinitarian Creator

1. God the One and Only

2. The God who creates

a. The Trinity in creation

i. Spirit

ii. Christ

3. Christ as the Word

- the God who reveals who he is

- the God who relates

Praise to the one and only creator God

Get to know God in the Word

How big is your God?

1. What is your immediate response when unexpected things happen in life?

Read Psalm 139.

2. In verses 1-16 David moves through cosmic ideas to deeply personal ones. How is God's role in human life pictured? What different images does David use to describe the scope of God's presence in our lives?

3. What is the overall impression from these descriptions?

4. Let's look at how else the Bible views God's sovereignty and our roles. What does each of the following teach you about God's role and ours?

Genesis 50:20	
Proverbs 16:4, 9, 33	
Isaiah 46:8-11	
Acts 2:22-24	
Philippians 2:12-13	

5. If you're feeling brave! Read Romans 9:10-24, Ephesians 1:3-14. How does Paul view God's sovereignty in election/ predestination?

6. In all these verses in 4 & 5 above, what do you find
(a) challenging?

(b) comforting?

7. How could knowing God is sovereign help you in times of uncertainty in life?

The Sovereign, Holy and Just God

1. Big words that start with 'omni'!

Omnipresent

Omniscient

Omnipotent

2. God is Holy

3. God is Just

4. Living with the Sovereign, Holy and Just God.

How great is your Saviour?

1. It's If you were to ask our unbelieving world, 'Do you think that salvation is important?' – what would they say? How foreign is the idea of 'salvation' to our world?

Read Exodus 15:1-12

2. The first time the idea of 'Salvation' appears in the Bible is in Exodus 15:2. What 'salvation' were Moses and the Israelites singing about, and how did it come about?

Read Psalm 62:1-12

3. Psalm 62 is one of the 'Salvation Psalms' (see also Psalm 27 and 28). What does David tell us about 'salvation'? What is the relationship between 'salvation' and 'hope'? What does David suggest is a good response to 'salvation'?

Read Luke 19:1-10

4. Who was Zacchaeus? Jesus announced his salvation, on what grounds? What does this tell us about what Jesus came to do?

Read Luke 23:32-43

5. Who in this story is saved? Why?

6. It is ironic that those who sneered (verse 35) recognised that Jesus saved others, but ridiculed him for not being able to ‘save himself’. Would it have been possible for Jesus to ‘save himself’? Why didn’t he?

Read Acts 4:8-12

7. This is the Apostle Peter’s third sermon in Acts – what was his main point?

God who saved Israel, and who saved David, is the same God who sent his son Jesus to save all those who trust him. The pattern of salvation demonstrated in the Old Testament is fulfilled most clearly in Jesus.

8. Look through the following verses and fill in the table:

Verses	What are believers saved from?
Romans 1:18	
Romans 3:9b	
Romans 5:21	
Ephesians 4:17-24	
Titus 2:11-12, 3:3	
1 John 5:19	

9. Look through the following verses and fill in the table:

Verses	What are believers saved for?
Romans 1:16	
Romans 10:9-15	
Ephesians 2:8-10	
1 John 4:7-11	

10. If an unbelieving friend was to ask you ‘Do you think that salvation is important?’ – what would you say?

Spend some time in prayer

The God who is Saviour & Provider

The God who is eternal

1. Why do you think we find understanding 'eternity' so hard?

Read Psalm 90:1-4; Psalm 102:25-27; Isaiah 40:28 and Revelation 4:10-11.

2. What do they say about God's nature?

Read Isaiah 65:17-25; Romans 8:18-23; 1 Timothy 1:17; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 2 Peter 3:8-13; Revelation 21:1-8 and 21:22-22:6.

3. What do they say about eternity, looking forward in time, in terms of:

Creation

Humanity?

4. What role does Jesus have in this eternity? See Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46; John 17:5, 24; Acts 17:30-31; 1 Corinthians 15:22-28; Ephesians 1:18-23; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:3; 13:8 and Revelation 1:17-18.

5. What do these verses also add to our understanding of our own eternity?

6. What do all the verses say about how we should live in light of knowing the God who is eternal, as we wait for our eternal nature to be revealed when Jesus returns?

7. Thinking back to all the different parts of the character and identity of God that we have looked at over the past 4 weeks -

What has surprised you about God's character?

Is there an area you want to learn more about?

What has encouraged you?

Do you need to change any area of your life, having being reminded of these things about God?

Spend some time praising God together for who He is.

The God who is Eternal Sanctifier

NOTES

NOTES

PRAYER POINTS

TS Rosters - Term 2, 2016

Morning Tea Roster

14 Jun	Diana & Majella's group B
21 Jun	Anita & Cathy's group B
28 Jun	Naomi N & Sarah's group B
5 Jul	BRUNCH: Julie & Naomi's group A & B

Sound Roster

14 Jun	Margaret
21 Jun	Christy
28 Jun	Christy
5 Jul	Anita

Tiny Tots Roster

	GROUP TIME (9:45-11am)	TALK TIME (11am-12pm)
14 Jun	Annie Smith	Julie Tormet
21 Jun	Janice Cheng	Cathy Sampson
28 Jun	Lynette Evans	Sarah Hall
5 Jul	Beth Aspinall	Libby Maddock

Thank you for serving all of us at Terrace Studies in this way. Your help is greatly valued. If your rostered slot does not suit you, please arrange a swap with someone else, and inform Adam Smith of swapped turns.

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