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Honor God

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HOW
CAN YOU
RECOGNIZE
A TRUE
SPORTS
FAN?

The POINT >

Our relationship with God is seen
in how we honor Him.

> EXODUS 20:7-11

⁷“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

> PSALM 145:1-7

¹I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. ²Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. ³Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. ⁴One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

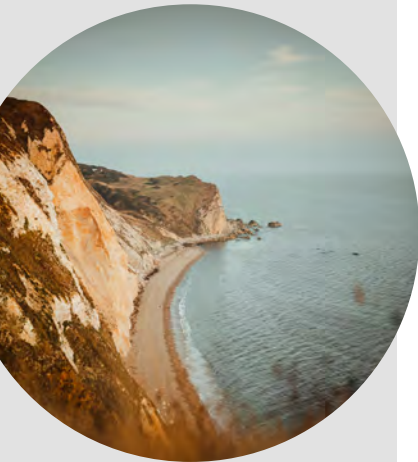
⁵On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. ⁶They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. ⁷They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

FACT:

Because so many of their players were drafted to serve in World War II, the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Philadelphia Eagles combined for the season to form the Steagles in 1943.¹



LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // GOD

God is worthy of our worship, and to misplace attention or affections to worldly things which are rightly owed to God is idolatry.

We know all about honor and worship because we do it all the time. Football fans show both honor and worship through their actions and commitment. A football game involves fewer than twenty minutes of actual action. Yet football fans willingly spend three hours or more watching a game that provides only a few minutes of action. If you actually go to the game, you have to add driving time, parking, walking to the stadium, and then sitting in the traffic gridlock when the game is over. But have you ever heard a football fan complain that the game went too long? No, because when we value something, we gladly commit our time to it.

Translate that willingness and enthusiasm over to our spiritual lives—matters like church attendance, personal Bible study, or prayer—and too many of us are satisfied with a quick five-minute devotion and short prayer. In fact, if we committed just twelve minutes per day, five days a week to reading the Bible, we would make it through all sixty-six books in less than a year. Yet many believers say this is too great a commitment. The Ten Commandments call us to honor God. The ways we spend our time says a lot about what we truly value. Are we truly honoring God?

EXODUS 20:7-11

1 What are some ways people dishonor or make light of God's name?

2 How is God calling you to set apart time to honor Him?



PSALM 145:1-3

3 What comes to mind when you read, “his greatness is unsearchable”?

4 What are some obstacles that get in the way of our worshiping God daily?

5 List some specific ways you can bless the Lord every day.

PSALM 145:4-7

6 When have you experienced God’s wondrous works and awe-inspiring acts?

7 What have previous generations taught you about honoring the Lord?

8 Though you’re young, how can you declare God’s works to the next generation?



*If we praise God only when it’s easy, then it’s not really worship. We must choose to honor God with our worship in good times and bad!
#GodsHeartBSFL*



LIVE IT OUT



GOD

JESUS

HOLY SPIRIT

BIBLE

SALVATION

CREATION

CHURCH

PEOPLE

FAMILY

COMMUNITY
& WORLD

LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // GOD

God is worthy of our worship, and to misplace attention or affections to worldly things which are rightly owed to God is idolatry.

As God's children, we are called to honor God above all else. This is seen in the ways we live every day. For instance, if we prioritize gathering with our church family, serving others, being generous with the things God gives us, and devoting ourselves to Bible study and prayer, it becomes evident that we love God. However, if we value the things of the world and fail to follow through in living for God, then our loving other things more than God will be seen in our choices.

> CHRIST

With the third commandment God revealed that He expects His people to honor Him in the ways we speak. This not only forbids our using God's name as a curse word, but means that we are never to speak of God in a careless manner.

9 Do you sometimes speak carelessly about God? How?

10 This week, make it a point to actively speak about God in ways that honor Him.

- > Share God-honoring posts on social media.
- > Tell a friend about the ways God has impacted your life.
- > Express to God in prayer the ways you recognize His goodness.



> COMMUNITY

When we speak carelessly or dishonorably about God, it can turn others away from Him. But when we make sure to honor God in the ways we speak to others, God receives the glory He deserves.

11 What kinds of patterns do you notice in your life in the ways you speak about God to others?

12 Talk about God with your Christian friends this week—not just about sports or movies. This can be a great encouragement to their faith and to yours!

> CULTURE

We live in a culture that dishonors God continually through words and actions.

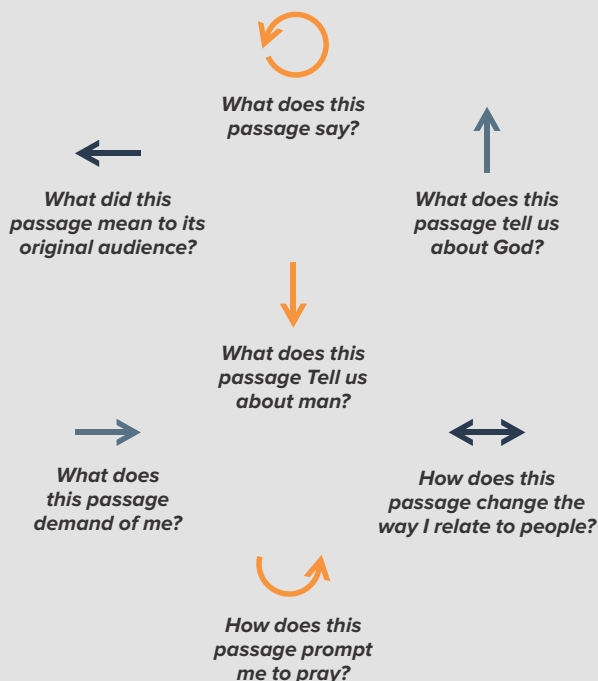
13 How does it impact you when you hear others speak dishonorably of God?

Stand out in your school or among your friends this week by pointing others to Jesus in the ways you speak about Him.

DAILY DEVOTIONS



The 7 Arrows of Bible Reading



Day One **MARK 6:1**

The place where Jesus grew up was a small village about 70 miles north of Jerusalem, and in Nazareth, just like in small towns all across America, everybody knew everybody. Jesus was about 30 years old when He began His public ministry (Luke 3:23), and for all the years leading up to that time, Jesus' neighbors had known Him as the carpenter's son. As far as they knew, Jesus was just like every other Nazarene. However, it seems they'd failed to understand that it "was spoken through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene" (Matt. 2:23). For 30 years, Jesus—God in the flesh—lived humbly and in a way that didn't grab the attention of His neighbors. But it was just a matter of time before His true character shone through.

➤ **Why did the people in Nazareth fail to recognize who Jesus truly was?**

➤ **Why did Jesus live humbly among His neighbors?**

Day Two

MARK 6:2



When Jesus came to Nazareth, it was to visit His folks—He'd come to do ministry among the people. One of Jesus' practices was, when He entered a town, He'd first go to the synagogue to teach. This is what He did in His hometown, too. And as it commonly happened, the people who heard Jesus teach were blown away! Further, Jesus had been doing ministry throughout Galilee, and the people in Nazareth had undoubtedly heard stories of the miracles Jesus had performed. They'd never heard anything like the insights Jesus shared or seen anything like His miracles, and like so many others, they wondered where He got such wisdom and power.

➤ **Why were people filled with wonder at the teachings and miracles of Jesus?**

➤ **How was Jesus able to teach and perform miracles the ways He did?**

Day Three

MARK 6:3

Because Jesus had grown up in Nazareth, everyone knew who He was—the son of Mary and Joseph. And as far as they were concerned, He was just like every other person who had grown up in their town. Whereas their first response was one of wonder, that soon turned to offense. In this context, it means the people of Nazareth “stumbled” or were “entangled” by the things they saw and heard from Jesus. Whereas the purpose of Jesus' teaching and miracles was to help people believe, overcoming the weakness of their faith, for some, it had the opposite effect. For those who refused to believe because of prideful hard-heartedness, the teaching and miracles caused them to stumble, further hardening their hearts. The people from Jesus' hometown—His neighbors—refused to receive Jesus and the things He taught. Instead, they were offended.

➤ **Why do some people find Jesus offensive?**

➤ **What are the consequences of refusing Jesus' teachings?**

Day Four

MARK 6:4

There's a common saying, *familiarity brings contempt*. This means that as we spend more and more time with someone or in a certain place, we become comfortable and may lose sight of the things that make that person or place special. For instance, several years ago, I moved into the mountains to an elevation of about 9000 feet. The first time I drove up the pass into the town where we were moving, I was overwhelmed at the beauty of the mountains. But after only a short time, I barely paid attention to the landscape all around me—I'd become too familiar. This is the same issue that affected the people of Nazareth. They were so familiar with Jesus, that they failed to see the wisdom and power that were inherently characteristic of who He was. Because of this, they refused to show Him the honor that He rightly deserved.

- **How have you become overly familiar with Jesus?**
- **What steps will you take to make sure you show Jesus the honor He deserves?**

Day Five

MARK 6:5-6



This verse doesn't mean that the people's lack of faith rendered Jesus powerless to do miracles. Instead, because of their unbelief, Jesus chose not to do miracles. Scripture teaches that there is "harsher judgment" for those who willfully refuse God after being exposed to the light (Mark 12:40). The hearts of the Nazarenes were so hard that their unbelief literally amazed Jesus. Of course, because Jesus is God, He has supernatural wisdom. But in His humanity, He was simply astounded by their bold claims to know Him, all the while refusing to acknowledge who He truly was. Jesus mercifully spared the Nazarenes from more severe punishment by not doing miracles among them. Through the Scriptures, Jesus has revealed Himself to us. We are called to show Him the honor He deserves.

- **Why was Jesus amazed at the unbelief of His neighbors?**
- **How does your life show that you honor Jesus above all?**