

Calvary Baptist Church For the week of: 11/17/25

# Home Worship Guide

Attributes and Names of God

The Beauty of God

The beauty of God is the radiant harmony of all His perfections. God Himself is the source and standard of all that is truly lovely and beautiful. Just as He is the standard of truth and goodness, so He is also the fountain of beauty. He created humanity to delight in beauty in nature, art, and music, so that we might ultimately be captivated by the supreme beauty found in Him. The beauty of God is the light and color that fills creation.

# WELCOME

#### Why should we do a family devotional?

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." - Deuteronomy 6:4-8

As long as there have been a "people of God," the command given to them has always been that they would be instructing their children in the way of the Lord. Scripture expects parents to be the primary disciplers of their children.

But teaching children is more than simply giving rules. It involves showing them HOW to obey the Lord by doing it yourself! These family devotionals are meant to equip you as an individual to grow in your understanding of the Lord and His Word, as well as providing parents with the resources and opportunities to demonstrate for their children what it looks like to pursue God.

#### How to use this devotional:

This is simply a resource for you to use however works best for your family! Each day there is a selected Scripture reading, devotional, discussion questions, a prayer prompt, and a song to sing together. You may consider splitting parts and having one family member read the Scripture while another reads the devotional and another leads the prayer. Feel free to read additional Scripture as you call to mind passages that relate to what was read. Sing more hymns and songs with your family than the one provided if you feel led to. Use this guide in whatever way helps you and your family draw nearer to the Lord together.

# PAST WORSHIP GUIDES

Are you just now learning about these worship guides? Or maybe you were traveling and missed a week. Don't worry! These worship guides are written in a way so that they can be used for years to come.

All of our past worship guides are available on our website. Feel free to scroll and find the one that works for you and your family. The dates simply help you know when they were written, it doesn't mean you only have to read them the week that they were published!

Find those worship guides here:



https://www.calvaryleavenworth.com/homeworship

# MONDAY

### Read Psalm 27 (focus on verse 4) Discuss

This will be the final worship guide that I (Tim) write for Calvary Baptist Church. This may be my last chance to teach anything to the church. As I prepare to write this final guide, my heart is heavy. Yet even as I wade through grief, one truth continues to anchor and captivate my heart: our God is beautiful.

We don't talk about it enough. We talk about how He is holy, sovereign, just, loving, merciful, and good. But have you ever stopped to consider that our God is so wonderfully beautiful?

What does it mean that He is beautiful? It means that He is perfect in all of His attributes.

To say God is beautiful means His attributes don't compete, they harmonize. Think of it like this, imagine each color of the rainbow. Now imagine each color as the most perfect version of itself: the reddest red, the bluest blue, the greenest green, etc. Now, imagine seeing all of those 'perfect' colors overlapping one another, not drowning each other out, but magnifying and intensifying one another. It is stunning and terrifying and wonderful and... beautiful.

God is the perfection of all His attributes, and they serve to magnify one another, so that when we consider God or gaze upon Him, tears fill our eyes and all we can think is "Wow, He is more lovely than anything."

#### **Discussion Questions**

- How do you respond when you see something beautiful?
- Do you think of God as beautiful?

#### **Persecuted Church/Missions:**

Usually we focus on one particular nation each week where the Christians are persecuted. But this week I want you to consider why these Christians would endure persecution. It is because they understand the beauty of God. They have tasted and seen that the Lord is good. They understand the perfect justice their sins deserve, the perfect mercy that they were given, and the perfect grace they continue to receive new each morning. They have been overwhelmed by the perfect love of God. Thomas Chalmers described this as the "expulsive power of a new affection." Where seeing God as truly beautiful makes the pleasures of this world fade and persecution seem light.

#### About the song:

When hard things happen, do you respond in joyful praise or do you despair? This hymn reminds us to lift our eyes with joy to God, even when things are hard.

#### **Pray**

Pray that you would love God more than anything

#### Sing

Only A Holy God CityAlight (2016)

### ONLY A HOLY GOD

#### Verse 1:

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven Who else could make every king bow down Who else can whisper and darkness trembles Only a Holy God

#### Verse 2:

What other beauty demands such praises What other splendour outshines the sun What other majesty rules with justice Only a Holy God

#### **Chorus:**

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

#### Verse 3:

What other glory consumes like fire What other power can raise the dead What other name remains undefeated Only a Holy God

#### (Chorus x2)

#### Verse 4:

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God!

(Chorus x3)

Here is a 3minute video of John Piper considering the beauty of God





# TUESDAY

Read Exodus 33:18-34:8; Psalm 19; Isaiah 6:1-7

#### **Discuss**

Do you remember what the beauty of God is? It is the perfection of all of God's attributes. So when we see God in all of His perfection, we cannot help and be moved in our souls.

How do people in Scripture respond when they see this beautiful glory of God? Isaiah, when he saw the fullness of the perfection of God, cried out in terror! The absolute beauty of God revealed how ugly his own sins had made him, and he was terrified. When the Lord passed before Moses and declared His name, full of mercy, grace, and steadfast love, Moses fell to the ground and worshiped

When we see glimpses of God, we see that His beauty is undeniable. And this moves something deep deep inside of us to respond in praise, worship, and even fear.

Think about standing on the edge of the ocean. Looking our and seeing the expanse of water bigger than our minds can comprehend. You see the waves crashing on the shore. You see the sun setting on the horizon making the sea light up with beautiful colors. What makes the beauty of the ocean different than a pool? It is the depth and expanse of it. Whatever a pool is, the ocean is even more! And as we are gripped by the immense beauty of the ocean, we also tremble at the unsearchable depths of it. David said, "The heavens declare the glory of God." Every sunset, every crashing wave, every detail of creation preaches that beauty.

#### **Discussion Questions**

 How should we "feel" when we experience the beauty of God?

#### **Apologetics:**

Did you know that the existence of beauty is actually an argument for the existence of God? Think about it for a moment, if this world is totally random, there would be no reason for beauty exist.

Evolution cannot explain beauty. It cannot explain why this universe is full of lovely things and scenes. It also can't explain why humans are so moved by beauty and recognize beauty. Beauty exists because God chose to make a beautiful world. He chose to reveal Himself in the world. His power and might and strength are seen all around us. And every single molecule of creation is also dripping with the beauty of God.

#### About the song:

This song isn't sung as often as it once was. However read through the lyrics and you will see they reflect what we talked about today. The beauty of God causes us to stand in awe of who He is.

#### **Pray**

Thank God for making a beautiful creation.

#### Sing

*I Stand in Awe* Mark Altrogge (1986)

### I STAND IN AWE

#### Verse 1:

You are beautiful beyond description
Too marvelous for words
Too wonderful for comprehension
Like nothing ever seen or heard
Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom?
Who can fathom the depth of Your love?
You are beautiful beyond description
Majesty, enthroned above

#### (Chorus)

And I stand, I stand in awe of You I stand, I stand in awe of You Holy God, to whom all praise is due I stand in awe of You

#### Verse 2:

You are beautiful beyond description
Yet God crushed You for my sin
In agony and deep affliction
Cut off that I might enter in
Who can grasp such tender compassion?
Who can fathom this mercy so free?
You are beautiful beyond description
Lamb of God who died for me

This video gives a wonderful argument for the existence for God from beauty





## WEDNESDAY

Read John 1:14-18; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Hebrews 1:1-3

#### **Discuss**

"For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him." Isaiah 53:2

Isaiah tells us that when Jesus came He had "no beauty that we should desire Him.'
Outwardly, there was nothing impressive about Him, no royal glory, no physical might.

Yet hidden beneath that ordinary appearance was the radiance of divine glory. For "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation." Colossians 1:15

Isn't that an interesting thought? Jesus had no earthly beauty, yet He was also the single most beautiful One to ever exist.

His whole life revealed the beauty of God. The perfection of God flowed out from Him in all that He did. Perfect love, perfect mercy, perfect compassion; all flowing out in perfect tears and perfect blood. The life of Christ is the life of God and is the most beautiful life that a person has ever lived.

Do you want to see beauty? Look to the life of our Lord.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- What is beautiful about Jesus' life?
- How should we respond to Jesus' beauty?

#### **Original Languages Word:**

נעם

(no'am) — Pleasantness, Delight, Beauty

This Hebrew word is often translated as beauty, but it describes something more than what is pleasing to the eye. The type of beauty that is described with this word is experiential beauty. It is a beauty and loveliness that is truly and deeply good. It is the type of beauty that you can tangibly feel. This is the beauty of the eternal God.

"One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty (נֹעַם) of the LORD and to inquire in his temple."

Psalm 27:4

#### **About the Song:**

This wonderful hymn reminds us that Jesus is more beautiful and lovely than anything this world has to offer us. He is truly and absolutely beautiful.

#### **Pray**

Pray that the whole world would see the beauty of Christ.

#### Sing

Fairest Lord Jesus Anonymous (1865)

### **FAIREST LORD JESUS**

#### Verse 1:

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

#### Verse 2:

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer who makes the woeful heart to sing.

#### Verse 3:

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast.

#### Verse 4:

Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.

Here is a short video that beautifully illustrates the Gospel (Some depictions may be scary for the littlest eyes)





# **THURSDAY**

Read 2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 4:8-9; Psalm 90:16-17

**Discuss** 

What do you do when you hear a truly beautiful song? Well first, you probably hit repeat and listen to it several times, allowing the melody to wash over you again and again. You experience the immense delight of finding something so beautiful, it blesses your ears and moves your heart. But then, captivated by the beauty, you share the song with your friends and family. You love them so much that you can't wait for them to share in your delight at the beautiful song.

And just as hearing beauty stirs us to share it, beholding God's beauty transforms us. His beauty should move us to share Him with others, showing people the beauty of the Lord. We have tasted and seen the goodness of God and now all we can do is burst forth in praise, sharing that beauty with everyone who will hear us!

But the beauty of God also changes our lives. God is infinitely beautiful, so how can we continue to go back to the ugly sins that we once enjoyed? Continuing in our sin is like turning away from a crystal clear spring to drink from a mud puddle. Why would anyone trade living water for filth? Yet that's what we do every time we choose sin over the beauty of God. God is so much better than the mud puddles of sin. Choose Him and His beauty and share it with those around you.

#### **Discussion Questions**

 How do you share the beauty of God with others?

#### Important Theological Term:

In the study of art and beauty, classical theology often speaks of the transcendentals. These are three attributes we experience in the world that flow directly from God Himself: truth, goodness, and beauty. These three always work together in harmony. Ultimate truth is good and beautiful. Perfect goodness is true and beautiful. And what is truly beautiful will also be good and true. Each of these finds its source and standard in God Himself. He alone defines what is good, true, and beautiful. Something is only good, true, and beautiful in as much as it reflects God. It is these transcendentals that move us from simple systematic understanding to experiential praise.

#### **About the Song:**

This well loved hymn reminds us that the Lord is the greatest prize for our souls. We fix our eyes on Him and His beauty. He is our treasure above anything this world can offer.

#### **Pray**

Ask God for courage to share His beauty with others

#### Sing

Be Thou My Vision
Anonymous (8th century)

### **BE THOU MY VISION**

#### Verse 1:

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day and by night; Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

#### Verse 2:

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my great Father, I thy dear child; Thou in me dwelling, with thee reconciled.

#### Verse 3:

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; Be thou my dignity, thou my delight. Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r; Raise thou me Heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

#### Verse 4:

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; Thou mine inheritance, now and always. Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

#### Verse 5:

High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'ns Sun! Heart of my heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Here is a wonderful clip of RC Sproul describing the beauty of God





# FRIDAY

Read Psalm 96 (focus on verses 6-9); Revelation 4:1-11

#### **Discuss**

How should we respond to the beauty of God? Raw and unhindered worship. That is how. The beauty of God should captivate our hearts and draw us into deep worship.

Sit and meditate for a moment on the depth of God's beauty. Then contrast His majesty with the ugliness of our sin. His beauty shines so brightly and wonderfully that it exposes everything else as dull by comparison.

Think of the love of a mother for her child, maybe your mother for you. She loves you beyond measure. Her love feels boundless, yet it is only a drop in the ocean compared to the love of God for us.

God is infinitely perfect in all of His attributes, each one compounding the others and harmonizing to form the most overwhelmingly lovely beauty.

This beauty should draw us to tears, should move the depths of our heart, and stir our sleeping souls. This beauty must compel us and motivate our lives to pursue the depths of His beauty more and more.

Friends, it is here that I leave you. Do not lose sight of the surpassing beauty of God. He is more precious than diamonds, more eternal than fame, and more satisfying then all riches. Love God. Pursue Him. Let His beauty captivate you so that your life is one of unhindered worship to Him. And one day, you and I will together see that beauty face to face, and our worship will never end.

#### **Discussion Questions**

• How do you see God's beauty in your life?

#### **Church History:**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 870ad, tradition records that Edmund, King of the East Angles, was martyred by the Danes. The Danes were pagan invaders. The invasion was brutal and King Edmund fought hard against the invaders. The Danes offered Edmund to have peace if he renounced his Christian faith. King Edmund refused to renounce Christ and instead continued to fight to keep his kingdom, throne, and his faith, determining that if he would lose his faith, then he didn't deserve his throne either. **Eventually Edmund was captured** by the Danes. He would be tortured and killed for his faith, a Christian to the end.

#### **About the Song:**

How many reasons can you think of to praise God? An infinite God has infinite reasons to praise His name, but maybe 10,000 reasons is a good start.

#### **Pray**

Praise and adore God for His infinite holiness.

#### Sing

And Can It Be Charles Wesley (1738)

### **AND CAN IT BE**

#### Verse 1:

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

#### **Refrain:**

Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, should die for me!

#### Verse 2:

'Tis mystery all! Th'Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.

#### [Refrain]

#### Verse 3:

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race; 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For, O my God, it found out me.

#### [Refrain]



#### Verse 4:

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.

#### [Refrain]

#### Verse 5:

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

#### [Refrain]

Watch this video of the beauty of the Gospel





# CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship

8:30 & 11:00am

**Sunday School** 

10:00am

CalvaryLeavenworth.com
913-682-3790

"Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

Mark 5:19

