

Last week, we asked a foundational question: Who are you trying to please? This week, Solomon turns our attention to how we approach God. In Ecclesiastes 5:1–7, he warns that it is possible to be around spiritual things without truly engaging God...offering words without surrender and worship without attention. Standing in awe of God is not emotional intensity; it is awareness that changes how we live. When we truly recognize who God is, reverence moves from belief to obedience.

QUESTIONS

Read SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 5:1-7

1. IN ECCLESIASTES 5:1–7, WHAT BEHAVIORS DOES SOLOMON DESCRIBE THAT REVEAL CASUAL OR CARELESS WORSHIP?
2. WHAT DOES “GUARD YOUR STEPS” LOOK LIKE IN EVERYDAY LIFE? WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ROUTINE CHURCH ATTENDANCE, OR “DOING ACTIVITIES SEEN AS SPIRITUAL,” AND TRUE REVERENCE?
3. WHERE IN YOUR LIFE HAS GOD BECOME FAMILIAR INSTEAD OF HOLY? PRAYER? WORSHIP? SCRIPTURE? OBEDIENCE? DECISION-MAKING? HAVE YOU EVER CAUGHT YOURSELF TALKING TO GOD WITHOUT REALLY LISTENING? WHAT DOES THAT REVEAL?
4. HOW WOULD YOUR DAILY DECISIONS CHANGE IF YOU TRULY LIVED WITH AWARENESS THAT GOD IS PRESENT AND LISTENING? HOW DOES AWE CHANGE BEHAVIOR ACCORDING TO JAMES 2:18?
5. WHAT IS ONE AREA WHERE YOU KNOW WHAT GOD WANTS — BUT HAVE DELAYED ACTING? IN OTHER WORDS: IF GOD NEVER DISAGREES WITH YOUR LIFESTYLE, ARE YOU FOLLOWING HIM—OR NEGOTIATING WITH HIM?

NEXT STEPS / CHALLENGE: AWE OF GOD TURNS BELIEF INTO OBEDIENCE.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS AND PRAYER TIME

Read the following scriptures this week:

Day 1 – Isaiah 6:1–8, Awe leads to surrender

Day 2 – Hebrews 12:28–29, Worship with reverence and awe

Day 3 – Matthew 15:8–9; 7:24–27, Lips vs heart worship; Wise builders practice what they hear

Day 4 – James 1:22; 2:18, Faith revealed through action

Day 5 – Revelation 4:8–11, Heavenly worship

Day 6 – Proverbs 9:10, Fear of the Lord is wisdom

Day 7 – Psalm 33:8; 95:6–7, Bow down and kneel