

The Glory of God

Isaiah 43:7

03.27.2022

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Reflect

Outline: Recap

Realize

Points to Ponder

Respond

Questions to draw out understanding.

REFLECT

Have you ever wondered what your purpose is? Have you asked why you're here, and whether there is more to life than the day-to-day grind? It's only natural. But God's answer – His "big idea" for humankind – may be a lot different than we think it is. And it strikes at the very core of who we believe God is and who He really is.

REALIZE

1. Life is Hard

- **Scripture Reference:** 1 Peter 4:12-13, 1 Peter 5:10-11
- **Leader Notes**
 - Even with Jesus, life can often be difficult. Jesus acknowledges that fact, but also promises that he has overcome the world.
 - Many of us experience extreme difficulties, but God is not a God who wastes our suffering.
- **Questions for Reflection**
 - What does it look like to follow a God we don't understand?

2. God is Good

- **Scripture Reference:** 1 John 4:18, Philippians 2:5-8
- **Leader Notes**
 - The primary purpose of Jesus coming was to show how to live a life for God's glory.
 - God is incapable of doing anything that is not for your highest good, if you allow him to use the circumstances of our lives for his glory.
- **Questions for Reflection**
 - Talk about a situation where God has chastened you, where you have been humbled or held back from what you wanted, and how you dealt with it.

3. Glory is Coming

- **Scripture Reference:** 2 Corinthians 4:17, Romans 8:18, Acts 20:24
- **Leader Notes**
 - Glory is coming, and on that day you'll look back at the circumstances of your life and realize what God was doing.
 - Whatever your cup is, God wants to use it for His glory.
- **Questions for reflection**

- If God is incapable of doing anything that's not for your highest good, how do you deal with life when things aren't going very well?