

6. In what ways do we underestimate God?

7. From this passage, what reasons do we have to worship God?

Let's Pray:

Sermon Notes

"When God's Presence is a Problem"

1 Samuel 5 – 6

July 23, 2017

Introduction

1. The _____ of God

2. The _____ God

Conclusion:

b. What kind of attitude on the part of the Philistines toward the God of Israel is suggested in chapters 4-6?

c. What did the Philistines learn about God from the experiences with the ark?

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 7-23-17

Questions adapted from 1&2 Samuel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2012, pp. 28-30; Dale Ralph Davis, Focus on the Bible 1 Samuel, Looking on the Heart, Bell & Bain, Glasgow, Great Britain, 2014, p. 69; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 234.

Getting Started:

1. What was your idea of God when you were a child? How has your idea of God changed as you have grown up?

Digging Deeper:

2. Read 1 Samuel 5 and 6.

a. Summarize what happened in the Philistines' experience with the ark of God and the circumstances of how they sent it back to Israel.

3. How could the Philistines tell that the ark's return to Israel was sovereignly directed by the Lord (see 6:1-12)?

4. The Philistines had evidently heard what had happened to the Egyptians at the Exodus and it made them fearful (see 1 Sam. 4:8; 6:6). Do you ever warn others of the judgement of God as well as of God's willingness to graciously forgive when we come his way?

5. How can we strike a balance between two facts: that God is totally self-sufficient and that he graciously uses us in his service?