

Questions for A Long Look at Salvation wk1

- Do you think we as Christians often think that we have salvation down - we understand it? Why or why not?
- If we are taking a long look at salvation, why would Pastor Keith start with God?
- Why does Paul, after a long doctrinal argument, burst out in a doxology (song)?
 - It seems as if one of the things that makes Paul suddenly sing is God Himself. If true, does God make you want to sing? When you really get a glimpse of who God is, does it move your heart to want to praise Him? Why or why not?
- Transcendent: When applied to God means that “God exists apart from and is not subject to the limitations of the universe like we are.”
 - How many of you have heard the word “transcendent” used of God before?
 - How many of you understood that it meant God exists apart from us and is not subject to the limitations of this universe like we are?
 - When you meditate on that idea, what comes to mind? What feelings does that stir inside you? How do you respond to God?
- We often pay lip service to the fact that God created everything, owns everything, and is in control of everything. Have you ever thought about all that means? That God knows what just happened on Jupiter. That star that is barely visible with our best telescope, God knows what its orbit is, and its exact distance from us. That little rock in space that used to be planet Pluto, God is in charge over it - and it is his.
- Have you pondered how God is not limited in His creation of anything? What implications spring from the fact that God does not rely on material goods for His creative work?
- How much of the statement “God knows everything” have you ever broken down to consider?
 - God knows every language that is was or ever will be.
 - God knows every fact of history from the grandiose to the mundane.
 - God knows every star, every planet and the time the sun sets and rises on them all.
 - God knows every bit of information on every DNA strand in the universe.
 - God knows what would have happened if history had played out differently.
- Have you ever sat in judgment of how God operates? If God has this kind of knowledge, why?
- Do you think God was overly harsh to Job in Job 38 when he tells him to “brace himself like a man...” and then questions Job?
 - If that is God’s response, is it okay to question God?
 - Can you think of others in Scripture that questioned God and received different responses?
- Does it scare you or comfort you that God in His transcendence, and in His knowledge is beyond our control?