

NWC Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 3/4/12

The Other Side of God

Deut. 5.22-6.3

Focus: *To call the church to fear God in a way that fuels their obedience.*

(NOTE: you can't get through all of these questions! Pick the ones that you think will matter most for your group!)

Do you think most Christians today have a pretty balanced view of God, between his 'harder' (judgment, anger, power, etc...) and his 'softer' (kindness, mercy, love, etc...) attributes? Do you? What causes any imbalances in our thinking about God's 'harder' side?

Read 5.22-6.3. How is God portrayed in this passage? Make a list of His attributes.

Why do you think that the people were afraid to even hear from God on Mt. Sinai? (v. 25) What keeps you from a view of God like that?

Why is it important for Moses to be established as a mediator between God and His people? How does this point to Christ (see Deut. 18.15-18)?

Based on verses 5.22-6.3, how are obedience, fear and blessing interrelated?

How do you reconcile the many commands to "fear the Lord" with 1 John 4.18 where it says that perfect love casts out fear? In what ways should we fear God and in what ways shouldn't we?

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