



July & December, 2023 | Trinity Church Golden Grove

Someone once said, "Theology, when properly done, possesses an aesthetic quality." Is beauty really the first thing you think of when you hear the word theology or think about God? Why not? Far from being dry and dull, theology, which is really just a way of saying thinking about God, has the ability to shape and change our lives in more ways than we can imagine.

After all, the chief end of all people is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever. Unless we know this God in who we live and move and have our being, we can't enjoy him or bring him glory.

This means theology is all about deepening our relationships to God as we get to know him better, through his word, by his spirit for his glory and our good.

This series is all about introducing us to and keeping our awe and appreciation of the God who isn't playing a cosmic game of hide and seek, who makes himself known through the person and work of Jesus Christ and how each of us can find life, joy and meaning in a relationships with him.

As Romans 11:33-36 says, "Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen."

Luke Dahlenburg

TALK OVERVIEWS

Who is God?

Isaiah 55:6–11 and Psalm 102:25–28

How does God reveal himself? Can we actually know God and what does thinking about God do for our life? In this talk we will explore 3 attributes of God (Aseity, Immutability and Omniscience) with a eye to see how comforting and safe it is to know that God is independent from creation, but uses creation to relate to us and show us more of himself.

God, 3 In 1

Deuteronomy 6:4–5 and Hebrews 1:1–3

Trinity is more than just the name of our church! It's a way to describe God as one, but 3 persons. Confused? It can be. In this talk we will explore the unity of God, how he interacts with creation and us in different ways, but always as one God and why having a solid grasp on the Trinity answer many questions about God and how to relate to him in our daily life.

Why Is The Old Testament So Violent?

Deuteronomy 18:9–13, Joshua 11:15–23 and Hebrews 4:8–13

Violence is a tragic aspect of human life and not God's intent for us. But, it doesn't take long to see violence permeating the Biblical story - from Cain and Abel, to the land conquest, Jesus' death and then the wrath of God being poured out in Revelation 14. So, what do we make of all this? More over, we often find violence associated with the land conquest narratives in the book of Joshua. This raises a heap of questions about the people groups living in the land, why God wants them take it over though a military campaign and how this fits with the rest of the Bible. As we walk though these big issues, we will end up in Hebrews 4 and how the ultimate goal that the land points to - rest and the removal of idols that would trip up God's people - is seen in Jesus' death, his promised renewal of heaven and earth and that the only military tools Christians have, is the word of God, the sword, as we confront our own evil and injustice with compassion, prayer, the gospel and kindness.

The God Who Doesn't Sleep

1 King 19:1–9 and Psalm 127:1–2

Have you ever though about what God *can't* do? It's often a helpful way to understand God's character. For example, God can't change, lie, deny himself, sin, be lonely, suffer, die and sleep. Like with most things, Christianity is the invitation to trust and walk with God in all of life - even sleep. And, just as a Christian may be anxious, worried, distracted, forgetful and sinful at times, so too, we will struggle to sleep. But, none of those other things imply that God isn't good or with us. So too, this Christianity isn't a magical sleeping pill. Rather, sleep is redeemed as something

anxious or fearful or lacking or disruptive, but as something that is now an extension of grace and a chance to walk into sleep trusting God as we do.

RECOMMENDED READING

- *12 Things God Can't Do*, Nick Tucker, The Good Book Company.
- *Knowing God*, J.I Packer.
- *Enjoying God*, Tim Chester, The Good Book Company.
- *The Majesty of Mystery: Celebrating the Glory of an Incomprehensible God*, Scott Oliphint, Lexham Press.