

GOD IS _____

Part 20: God is in the Small

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Psalm 34:1-9 (ESV)

- ¹ I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- ² My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.
- ³ Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together!
- ⁴ I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
- ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.
- ⁶ This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.
- ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- ⁸ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!
- ⁹ Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!

God is fully present and powerful in the small prospects.

God's kingdom is advanced through the small circumstances.

Jesus taught that God's kingdom is fully active in the small:

- The message of the Kingdom is like a **seed** that gets planted in good soil (*Matthew 13:19*)
- The kingdom of heaven is like **yeast** (*Matthew 13:33*)
- The kingdom of heaven is like treasure **hidden** in a field (*Matthew 13:44*)
- The kingdom of heaven is like a **pearl** (*Matthew 13:45*)
- The kingdom of heaven is like a **tiny mustard seed** (*Matthew 13:31*)

But if God is in the small, then the small is hugely important!

How can God's rule and reign extend in the small of my life?

For “cave dwellers”...

For “9 to 5'ers”...

For “cruise tour” Bible readers...

Next Steps

- Read the history of David and backstory of Psalm 34 found in 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel. Dig deep, leave the shallows and wade out into the depths of scripture. Then reread Psalm 34 and see if there isn't a much richer experience to be found in this incredible psalm.
- Explore living kingdom life with other people at CTK. There is big life impact in a small group. Contact Kevin Brearley (kevinb@ctkbellingham.com) to find out more.
- Read Brother Lawrence's book, *The Practice of the Presence of God* if you want practical ways to advance God's kingdom through the small, ordinary parts of your life.
- Contact Brian Steele (brians@ctkbellingham.com) to partner with Doxa (CTK's high school ministry) if you want to help advance God's kingdom through students in Whatcom County.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Describe a time when you've felt like you were living in a cave, with the lowest prospects.
- 2) Are there certain promises of God that are valuable to you and help get you through difficult times? What are they
- 3) How can God's kingdom advance in the small, normal circumstances of your life?
- 4) Where have you become impatient in waiting for God?
- 5) In what areas of your life does God's rule and reign need to be extended and advanced?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?

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