

A Weekly Word

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Readings for the week of Oct. 22, 2023:

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22: 15-22

God is a holy God. He is awesome in every way. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

Psalm 99: 1-5 says, *“The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he! Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!”*

Yet, God is also a personal God. He knows us. He sees us. Jeremiah 29:11-13 tells us, *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart”.*

It can be difficult sometimes to see God as He really is. Many of us have grown up hearing about God’s holiness and His Sovereignty, which can cause us to fear Him. He does want us to show reverence to Him, but not to be afraid of Him.

Exodus 33:17 tells us, *“you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”*

Like Moses, we can find favor with God, by following Him and obeying Him.

We can make someone’s acquaintance, but never know their name, but God loves each of us, and He even knows our names. Through our prayers, He wants us to get to know Him and His nature.

He is trustworthy, and will carry our burdens, if we let him. 1 Peter 5: 6-7 says, *“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.”*

