

“God’s Glory & Our Story”

Delighting in God’s Glory: The Essence of God and Implications for Life

Introduction:

Glenda’s Story¹

Your Story

GCC Purpose Statement: “The purpose of Grace Community Church is to equip God’s people to delight in His glory and declare that glory to the nations.”

1. What is God’s GLORY?

“... his divine splendor and the magnificence for which he is worthy of honor.”² Mark Jones

A. ESSENTIAL Glory: “represents the sum of his attributes, which together make him the ‘God of glory’ (Acts 7:2)”³

“That God would give us so much information about Himself is an indication of his desire for a relationship with us. He wants us to know more than facts about him. He wants us to know him.”⁴ Heath Lambert

B. ASCRIBED Glory: the adoration of God (1 Chron. 16:23-29; Mt. 6:9)

2. How do we DELIGHT in God’s Glory?

A. KNOW His Glory (Ex. 33:18)

“It is not enough for the Christian to know *that* God is; we must be driven by a holy passion to know *who* he is. The pursuit of the knowledge of God must never be undertaken as a casual exercise. It must be the chief business of our lives.”⁵ R. C. Sproul

“It is possible to have much head knowledge of theology with no godliness at all... The knowledge of God in the heart transforms a person.” Beeke & Smalley

“earnestly beseech God to bless them to him, to apply His Truth to the conscience and heart, so that his life will be transformed thereby.”⁶ A. W. Pink

“We are dependent upon God to remove the blindness and irrationality caused by sin and to enable us to evaluate the evidence rightly, believe what Scripture says, and come to saving faith in Christ... If we are to know God at all, it is necessary that he reveal himself to us.”⁷ Grudem

¹ Glenda Revell, *Glenda’s Story* (Grace & Truth Books, 2006), 71.

² Mark Jones, *Devotion Is: A Devotional Guide to the Attributes of God* (Crossway, 2017), 103.

³ Jones, 103.

⁴ Heath Lambert, *A Theology of Biblical Counseling* (Zondervan, 2016), 105.

⁵ R. C. Sproul, *Enjoying God: Finding Hope in the Attributes of God* (Baker Books, 2017), 14.

⁶ A.W. Pink, *The Attributes of God* (Baker Books, 2006), 7.

⁷ Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 144, 149.

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1) GENERAL Revelation (Rom. 1:18-20)

2) SPECIAL Revelation (2 Tim. 3:16)

“Hundreds of false religions in the world are evidence of the way sinful people, without guidance from Scripture, will always misunderstand and distort the revelation about God found in nature. But the Bible alone tells us how to understand the testimony about God from nature. Therefore we depend on God’s active communication to us in Scripture for our true knowledge of God.”⁸ Grudem

A) The SCRIPTURES (Rom. 15:4)

“The more we interact with God’s unveiling of himself in sacred Scriptures, the more light we are able to apprehend. This light is designed by God himself to be a lamp for our pathway. Lest we stumble and trip, falling into unseen snares, God has been pleased to give such a lamp - a lamp that is illuminated by the Spirit of Truth himself, who searches all things, even the very mind of God.”⁹

B) The SPIRIT (1 Cor. 2:10-12)

C) The SON (John 14:9)

“The attributes of God are most clearly seen in the person and work of Christ, when God became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:1, 14)... Though ‘no one has ever seen God’, Christ ‘has made him known’ (1 :18; cf. 1 Tim. 6:16).”¹⁰ Terry Johnson

“By knowing him intellectually, experientially, and practically, God’s people receive the greatest blessing, and God receives the highest glory. God designed the gospel of Christ to accomplish this very end, for the gospel humbles man but glorifies God alone through the work of Christ alone (1 Cor. 1:30-31).”¹¹ Beeke & Smalley

B. LIVE for His Glory (1 Cor. 10:31; 2 Cor. 5:14-15)

“Our purpose in studying the doctrine of God is to live unto God through Christ.”¹²

C. LONG for His coming Glory (1 John 3:2-3; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 8:18)

“Our knowledge of this boundless God diffuses into our soul a satisfying peace in this life and a ravishing foretaste of what awaits us in glory.”¹³ George Swinnock

D. DECLARE His Glory (Is. 6:8; Col. 1:28-29)

Pilgrim’s Progress¹⁴

The Valley of Vision¹⁵

⁸ Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 149.

⁹ Sproul, *Enjoying God*, 14.

¹⁰ Terry Johnson, *The Identity and Attributes of God* (Versa Press, 2019), 19.

¹¹ Beeke & Smalley, 509.

¹² Beeke & Smalley, 504.

¹³ George Swinnock, *The Blessed and Boundless God* (Reformation Heritage Books, 2014), viii.

¹⁴ John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim’s Progress* (Tyndale House Publishing, 2016), 37.

¹⁵ <https://banneroftruth.org/us/devotional/a-present-salvation/>

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