**None Like Him Reading Guide #1**

**Infinite: The God of No Limits**

*The author of Hebrews takes care to distinguish between the fear of God’s consuming wrath and the fear of God’s holiness. Both may cause us to tremble, but only the second causes us to worship and repent. Because of Christ, you and I do not come cowering to fearsome, thundering Mount Sinaia; instead, we come expectantly to glorious, approachable Mount Zion (Hebrews 12:18-24). We are exhorted to respond to this God by offering him “acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire”. Worshipful reverence and awe, not cowering dread, define a right fear of the Lord. – Jen Wilkin*

**1 As we begin this series on the nature of God take time to reflect on the following verses. What do these verses reveal to you about God and about us?**

* **1 Kings 8:27**
* **Psalm 119:96**
* **Isaiah 40:12-13**

**2 What is important for you to measure? Why?**

**3 Why do you think we have a desire to measure things?**

*“The point is not to completely understand God but to worship Him. Let the very fact that you cannot know Him fully lead you to praise Him for His infiniteness and grandeur.” – Francis Chan*

**4 Read Job 11:7-9 What do we learn about God from this passage?**

*God has no rivals. Not only that, but he measures and decrees the boundaries by which his creation will abide. Our whole lives as Christ-followers are to be given over to the identification and celebration of the limits God has ordained for us. He lovingly teaches them to us through his Word, through trials, through discipline. He humbles us through these means to remind us that we are not him, nor is anyone or anything else we know. – Wilkins*

**5 What is your emotional response to the knowledge that God cannot be measured?**

Theologians make two lists when they describe who God is. One list contains traits that are true only of God. The other contains traits that are true of God but that can also become true of us. Here is an example of that list:

**Only God Is**

Infinite, incomprehensible, self-existent, self-sufficient, eternal, immutable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, sovereign

**God Is (and we can be)**

Holy, loving, just, good, merciful, gracious, longsuffering, wise, jealous (for his glory) faithful, righteous, truthful.

**6 Although we know the (God Is and we can be list) is for our good and for God’s glory, we gravitate toward the (Only God Is list) that is not good for us, nor does pursuing it bring glory to God. – Why do you think that is so?**

*We must recover the truth that was obscured by the Serpent: rather than being like God in his unlimited divinity, we are to be like God in our limited humanity. We are capable of bearing his image as we were intended only when we embrace our limits. Image-bearing means becoming fully human, not becoming divine. It means reflecting as a limited being the perfections of a limitless God. Our limits teach us the fear of the Lord. They are reminders that keeps us from falsely believing that we can be like God. When I reach the limit of my strength, I worship the One whose strength never flags. When I reach the limit of my reason, I worship the One whose reason is beyond searching out. – Wilkins*

**7 Wilkins makes the claim that being an image bearer of God means to become fully human, not becoming divine. What does that mean to you – what might that look like?**

**8 Read Genesis 3:1-5. What is the temptation to want to be like God?**

The Reformers and the Puritans used a Latin phrase to describe man’s relationship to God: ***finitum non capax infiniti***. This phrase means that since man is finite, he cannot hold or comprehend the infinite God. Above all else, this was an expression of piety. The finite mind cannot penetrate the divine essence.

*Since we are finite creatures, our minds always work from a finite perspective. So, we can never understand God fully, because God lives and moves and has his being on an infinite plane, while we live and move and have our being on a finite plane. The finite cannot grasp or contain the infinite. – R.C. Sproul*

**9 If only God is infinite, and we are not – why is that a good thing?**