



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Women's Ministry Hike** – Join us for the May Women's Ministry Hike to Round Valley Regional Preserve on Saturday, May 25th. We will meet in front of the Sprung/Refinery at 10 a.m. This will be approximately a 4-6-mile hike. Please bring a lot of water, snacks/lunch, a hat, appropriate shoes, and sunscreen. You can sign up on the APP. For more information, contact Jamie Ulloa at: [jamielynulloa@gmail.com](mailto:jamielynulloa@gmail.com).
- **VBS Registration** – Join the adventure June 9-13 at Vacation Bible School as we visit Breaker Rock Beach to learn about God's rock-solid truth in a world of shifting sands. All kids 4-years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade welcome for a fantastic week of bible stories, games, crafts, snacks, music, friends & fun. Invite your friends and spread the word. For more information, contact Christine Garth at: [cgarth@southwinds.org](mailto:cgarth@southwinds.org).
  - Price is \$25 early bird thru April 7 then \$30 regular price.
  - Sunday June 9 – Thursday June 13, 6-8:30pm
  - 4-years old -- 6th grade
  - All Kids Welcome! Registration is available on the Southwinds App!

## MY STORY

**How many times in our lives have we responded to something by simply saying "Oh!"?**

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## Have a Volunteer Read: Romans 11:33

### Point #1: "Oh!" OUR HEART'S RESPONSE TO GOD'S TRUTH IN THE GOSPEL.

"We must allow God as he's revealed in his word to define and interpret our circumstances, not the other way around. This is so important, I think, at this point in our nation's history, with all we've faced and are facing. The reality of God gives a ballast to our hearts amidst pandemics. It gives wisdom amidst political chaos, hope amidst heartache, courage in fear, patience in trials, in ways that nothing else can. Only the reality of God can do that in the human heart, which is why there's nothing more

practical ultimately than God's truth. This 'Oh!' is meant to capture our heart's response to God's truth in the gospel." – **Michael Nolen**

**Are there any ways you tend to find yourself defining God by your circumstances, instead of interpreting your circumstances by God?**

**Point #2: God's unfathomably DEEP RICHES.**

"Paul begins by marveling at the depth of God's riches. The word deep... speaks of something so vast, we can't know its depth. It's out of sight, unreachable. We could go down, but we'll never find bottom, because it's too deep. There's always more depth to discover when we're talking about the deeps of God. God is ultimate reality. He's the bottom of everything. You can't go deeper than God. There's nothing beneath him. So yes, the infinite heights are his. Psalm 19:1 says, 'The heavens declare the glory of God.' But so do the infinite depths, says Paul. God's riches... Paul tells us, are boundless and inexhaustible. We can't begin to fathom the depths of his riches. Paul is stretching the bounds of language to make us consider the unseen, inexhaustible, overflowing abundance of God. What he's trying to get across is that we will never exhaust our understanding of God... ever. Paul wants us to see that only these deep riches can satisfy the human heart. In fact, what we all should be looking for when we read our Bibles is not just knowledge or information, but to make our hearts happy...in the deep riches of God. And there's enough... to make your heart happy every single day of your life." – **Michael Nolen**

**How do you think meditating on God's deep riches makes your heart happy?**

**Point #3: God's inexhaustibly INFINITE MIND.**

"God's knowledge is his understanding of reality. In other words, he knows all things. There is nothing that is unknown to him. And what he knows, he knows exhaustively, perfectly and eternally. God's wisdom... is his capacity to apply his knowledge to make the best decisions. In other words, he always knows what's best. God's wisdom, like his knowledge, is unfathomably deep. He never makes a wrong decision. He never second guesses himself. He is never trapped by sin or evil or circumstances. He knows how best to use all that happens in the universe and in our lives to achieve his ultimate goal... which is to display the fullness of his glory, in the praise and worship of his redeemed people. And Paul, astonishingly in Colossians 2:3, reveals that all these treasures of the wisdom and knowledge of God are specifically found in Jesus." – **Michael Nolen**

**What is most amazing to you about God's wisdom and knowledge?**

**Have Another Volunteer Read: Romans 11:34-35**

**Point #4: God's incomprehensibly ASTONISHING WAYS.**

"To say God's judgments (his decisions or decrees) are unsearchable and his ways (how he works in the world today) are inscrutable doesn't mean God is unknowable or unpredictable. God has revealed so much about himself in his word that we should labor to understand, as much as we can, even in our finiteness. But he's always going to be infinitely above and beyond us in knowledge and wisdom. And that should tell us, by definition, that we will often not understand what he is doing in the world and in our lives. That means we should not be surprised when we don't "get" his plan. From our perspective, what's happening in our lives may not make sense. Circumstances can seem disconnected, meaningless. But Paul is telling us that God is always at work. Paul is reveling in the knowledge that

even when he can't see it, God is working his wise plans. So why would we critique him? Why would we question what he does?" – **Michael Nolen**

**Where are you most tempted to try to counsel God? Or tell God what he owes you?**

**Have Another Volunteer Read:**

**Point #5: God's inexpressibly BEAUTIFUL REASON FOR ALL THINGS.**

"Finally, Paul highlights that God is the ultimate reason for and goal of all things. *All things are from him*, which means he's the source of all things. Nothing is excluded. And if that weren't enough, *all things are through him*, which means he is the ultimate reason anything happens. Finally, *all things are to him*. That word *to*, though short, is profound. It indicates the purpose towards which everything is moving. God is the ultimate goal of all things. So God is the ultimate source. God is the ultimate cause. God is the ultimate reason for everything. And not just God in general, but Jesus in particular. In John 1:3 and Colossians 1:16, we learn... all things were made through Jesus. Colossians 1:17 tells us that in Jesus, all things hold together. This makes Jesus the final and ultimate meaning of reality. Which is why Paul, concludes and says, 'To him be glory forever'. Glory refers to God's manifold significance, his worth, his dignity." – **Michael Nolen**

**Which attribute of God in these verses is most meaningful for you right now?**

**How does this passage grow your love for, and trust, in Jesus?**

**APPLICATION**

"Have you tasted and seen that the Lord is good?" – **Michael Nolen**

**What do you need to lean into this week?**

**PRAISES**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**