

UPGRADING YOUR VISION

Part 4: How Powerful is God

SERVING A POWERFUL GOD *(1 Samuel 14:6-7 NKJV)*

A. Jonathan's words

1. Revealed his perspective of the enemy
 - a. Called them uncircumcised - people without a covenant with God
2. Revealed his perspective of God
 - a. He knew the stories of what God had done for Israel
 - b. He saw God as powerful - not restrained or limited
 - c. A God who was able to save with many or few
3. Jonathan's armor bearer recognized the words
 - a. Coming from his heart

B. Jonathan's actions *(1 Samuel 14:11-14 NKJV)*

1. Congruent with his words - God was powerful
 - a. Moved toward the fight
2. Believed God had given them victory over their enemies
 - a. Before a sword was drawn
3. The two of them killed 20 men in hand-to-hand combat

HOW CAN WE GROW IN OUR VISION OF GOD?

A. Start with what is revealed in God's Word *(Jeremiah 32:17 and 19 NKJV)*

1. He is the Creator
2. Nothing is too hard for Him
3. He is both brilliant and strong

B. Take time to meditate on God's Word *(Psalm 145:5 NKJV)*

1. Time to get quiet and think
 - a. Meditate also means to ponder by speaking to yourself
2. Meditation is a key to flourishing spiritually *(Psalm 1:1-3 NLT)*
 - a. There is a great amount of input available from sources who do not acknowledge God
 - b. The delight is in God's Word - not the duty
 - c. What we keep on our mind can cause us to flourish or wither

C. Praise God for His greatness *(Psalm 145:3 NKJV)*

1. His greatness deserves our praise
2. His greatness extends beyond our mental capacity

D. Talk about God being powerful

1. There is a heart-mouth connection *(Romans 10:8 NKJV)*
 - a. God's Word needs to be in both places
2. Start prayer with the bigness of God *(Acts 4:24 NKJV)*
 - a. How the Jewish people and early church prayed
3. Talk about His greatness and power *(Psalm 145:6 and 11 NKJV)*

1 Samuel 14:6-7 NKJV

6 Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the Lord will work for us. For nothing restrains the Lord from saving by many or by few."

7 So his armorbearer said to him, "Do all that is in your heart. Go then; here I am with you, according to your heart."

1 Samuel 14:11-14 NKJV

11 So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said, "Look, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they have hidden." 12 Then the men of the garrison called to Jonathan and his armorbearer, and said, "Come up to us, and we will show you something."

Jonathan said to his armorbearer, "Come up after me, for the Lord has delivered them into the hand of Israel." 13 And Jonathan climbed up on his hands and knees with his armorbearer after him; and they fell before Jonathan. And as he came after him, his armorbearer killed them. 14 That first slaughter which Jonathan and his armorbearer made was about twenty men within about half an acre of land.

Jeremiah 32:17 and 19 NKJV

17 'Ah, Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.

19 You are great in counsel and mighty in work, for Your eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings.

Psalms 145:5 NKJV

5 I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
And on Your wondrous works.

Psalms 1:1-3 NLT

1 Oh, the joys of those who do not
follow the advice of the wicked,
or stand around with sinners,
or join in with mockers.
2 But they delight in the law of the Lord,
meditating on it day and night.
3 They are like trees planted along the riverbank,
bearing fruit each season.
Their leaves never wither,
and they prosper in all they do.

Psalms 145:3 NKJV

3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
And His greatness is unsearchable.

Romans 10:8 NKJV

8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

Acts 4:24 NKJV

24 So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said:
“Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,

Psalm 145:6-11 NKJV

6 Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts,
And I will declare Your greatness.

11 They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom,
And talk of Your power,