

“Lenses”

A Personal or Small Group Experience

There is no question that the way we approach someone or something dramatically affects the outcome of the interaction or the relationship. I think of it as a colored lens that tints everything. We can't ever be completely colorless and un-tinted in the way we look at things but we can understand our own tint, bent and coloring that we bring to the table. In fact, as I think about it—most of what I do in pre-marital counseling is leading two people through discussions and experiences where they get to see and understand a little better their own lenses as well as their future spouse's lenses.

Remember we all have lenses—do we understand them and are they healthy lenses!

This lens discussion could apply to every area of life—it affects everything from our perceptions of love, our definition of life and even our concept of God! Lets talk about our lenses with regards to how we approach the Word of God!

Discuss in your group the comments about lenses from the message:

My lens might be:

I _____ challenge, P _____ wise living, and/or

I _____ - words of encouragement, comfort and hope!

The problem is this leaves _____ in charge!

Now I encourage you to look at these scripture passages, discuss and then pray about the lens—approach—attitude God wants to design in us as we approach His word. Perhaps make a list of words that describe this God-designed lens/attitude and each one pick the most meaningful and applicable to them.

Ezekiel 2:1-3:3

Psalms 119:9-16 (or any of the verses in this Psalm-look around its cool!)

Hebrews 4:12-16

“A Summer to Thrive!”

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week's theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week's message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - June 13-18

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart's attention. Ask God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?” “How are You inviting me to respond?”
- 4) Pray everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!
Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday: Psalm 119:1-8

Tuesday: Hebrews 4:12-16

Wednesday: Psalm 119:25-32

Thursday: Ezekiel 2:1-3:3

Friday: Psalm 119:41-48

Saturday: Psalm 119:57-64