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### Does This Sound Familiar?

Joe and Susan come for counseling because of their inability to resolve a major conflict in their marriage. Joe begins by saying, "God is leading us to move to another area of the country for a job change, but Susan is unwilling to follow me. Now I know that Ephesians 5 says I'm the head and Susan is supposed to submit to me – Right?"

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### Does This Sound Familiar?

Susan interrupts, "Joe doesn't have to move – he just wants a job change that's close to his relatives – but we're settled here – the kids don't want to go anywhere – they have their friends and I have my church friends. He makes so many foolish decisions without my input and then expects me to reap the tragic consequences."

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### Does This Sound Familiar?

Susan continues, "I know that Ephesians 5 also says that he is supposed to love me like Christ loves the church – Right? Somewhere I believe it says that he is supposed to live with me in an understanding way. Well, I've had it, enough is enough!"

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### Does This Sound Familiar?

Joe replies, "I'm going! And if she doesn't follow me, her God-ordained 'head,' then I guess you all at the church will just have to church discipline her like Matthew 18 says to do." They both stop talking and are now wanting some counsel. What would you say to them?

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## TROUBLE-SHOOTING in the book of Ephesians

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### I. Why We Glorify God

#### A. Because of who God is

- Wrong views of God will hinder us from giving glory to God.




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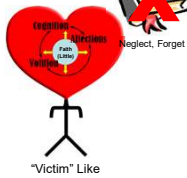
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- Discouraged, depressed
- Give up
- Don't read, study, meditate on Scripture
- Prayers only of deliverance
- Seek my will
- Rely on my strength
- Self-Pity
- Isolate



God's only  
"Sovereign"  
- Seems distorted

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## I. Why We Glorify God

### A. Because of who God is

1. Wrong views of God will hinder us from giving glory to God.
2. Right Views of God encourage us to give glory to God.




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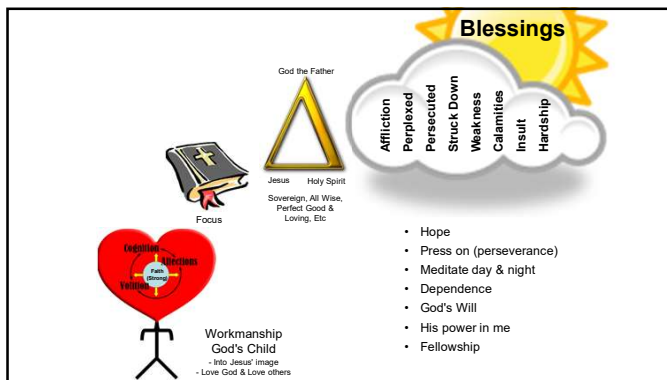
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## I. Why We Glorify God

### B. Because of what God has done, is doing and will do for us




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## I. Why We Glorify God

- C.** We're all created for it
- WCF: "Man's chief end..."




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## I. Why We Glorify God

- D.** God expects it exclusively
- This is 'spiritual North' on our heart's compass




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## II. It's Most Important that we glorify God in our present situation




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### III. What's In The Way

- A. A temporal perspective
- B. Other life agendas (idolatrous lusts)
- C. The consuming desire or expectation to be removed from trial
- D. A lack of true salvation/regeneration




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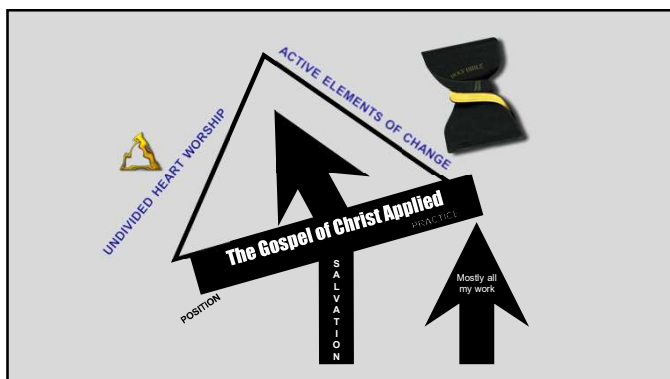
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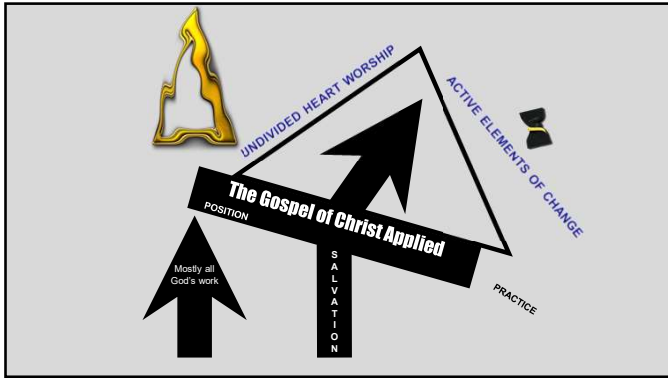
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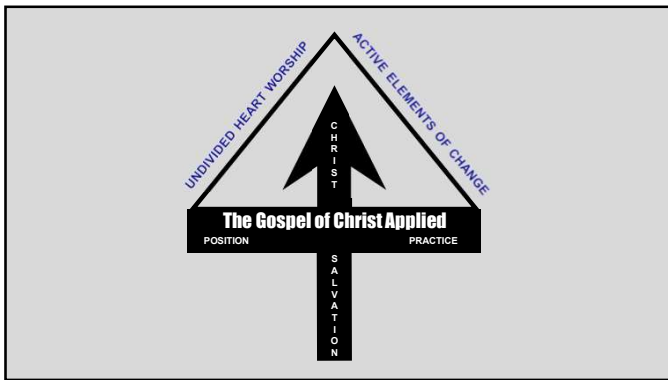
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### III. What's In The Way

- E.** Unconfessed sin
- F.** Imbalance of Gospel Truths
- G.** Omission of seeking after the One and True God
- H.** Etc.




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Most often what we want for ourselves and others

#### Trust and Obey with delight

- But often, we or the other person isn't that interested in loving, glorifying and obeying God - thus the continuation of the sin problem

### The Progression of Christlike Living

Taken from various Puritan Sources: Charnock, Swinock, Baxter, Watson

Adapted by Drs. Stephen Yuille and Stuart W. Scott

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There is a progression to obedient faith

#### Knowing & Understanding God

- Absolute Divine Truth
- This knowledge doesn't fluctuate neither is it uncertain

#### Fear of God

- Focus on God's Majesty and Goodness
- Not a slavish fear of punishment but filial reverence
- The fear of God sanctifies love

#### Loving God

- He is beautiful and we are attracted to Him not for what we get but just because of who He is and also to enjoy Him
- The highest affection

#### Trust and Obey with delight

- Origin of all sin is want of true love to and fear of God's majesty

### The Progression of Christlike Living

Taken from various Puritan Sources: Charnock, Swinock, Baxter, Watson

Adapted by Drs. Stephen Yuille and Stuart W. Scott

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## IV. What It Practically Means

- A.** We must know that there are many ways for us to glorify God (However, we perhaps can sum them up by saying that we Glorify God when we worship God alone with our hearts, with our lips, and with our lives.).




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#### **IV. What it Practically Means**

B. Breaking it down: There are many ways to bring glory to God:

(adapted from, The MacArthur Bible Commentary, 1518)

- Everyday decisions w/purpose – 1 Cor 10:31
- Confessing our sins – Jos 7:19
- Praying expectantly – Jn 14:13
- Living a pure life – 1 Cor 6:18-20

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#### **IV. What It Practically Means**

- Submitting to Christ's Lordship  
(Phil 2:9-11)
- Praising God – 2 Cor 4:15
- Obeying God – 2 Cor 9:13
- Growing in our faith – 2 Cor 3:18;  
2 Pt 3:18
- Suffering for Christ's Sake – 1 Pt 4:15-16

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#### **IV. What It Practically Means**

- Rejoicing in God – 1 Chron 16:10
- Worshipping God – Ps 86:9
- Bearing Spiritual Fruit – John 15:8
- Proclaiming God's Word – 2 Thess 3:1
- Serving God's People – 1 Pt 4:10-11

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#### IV. What It Practically Means

- Purifying Christ's church – Eph 5:27
- Giving sacrificially – 2 Cor 9:13
- Unifying believers in truth – Jn 17:22
- Salvation of the lost – 1 Thess 2:12
- Shining Christ's light by our good works – Mat 5:16
- Spreading God's Gospel – 2 Cor 4:15
- By **Reflecting** His Attributes (communicable ones) – 2 Cor 3:18
- The way we die (in faith) – Jn 21:19

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#### C. God's Glory: Eclipsed or Reflected

1. We must get **GENERALLY** focused by living in light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ
2. We must get **SPECIFICALLY** focused




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#### Three KEY Points

1. Information and agreement alone does not equal transformation
2. We must intentionally meditate on specific application to our own lives
3. God will not believe for you nor will He obey for you

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## V. Will Need Homework

- Scriptures**
- A. Locate **Scriptures** that we study and respond to Gospel Truths
  - B. Use books/booklets that are supplemental
  - C. Develop a running list of God's attributes, deeds and promises.




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## V. Will Need Homework

- D. Make your own own list of ways you are eclipsing God's glory.
  - List SPECIFIC lusts and the thoughts that go with them for renewal
- E. Make your own list of ways you can reflect God's glory in your difficult situation and come up with very specific plans to do so.




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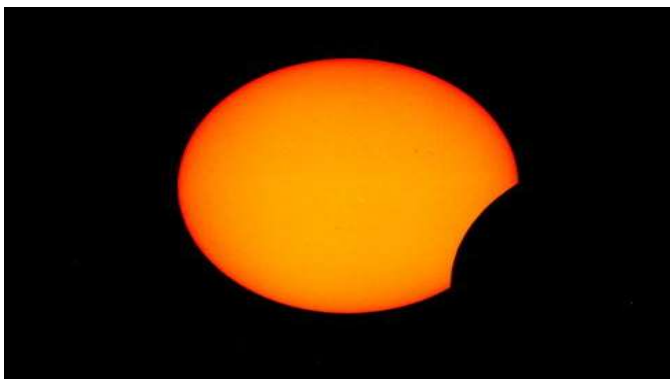
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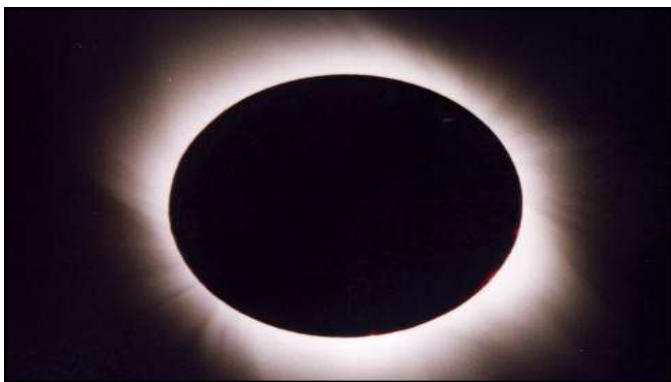
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## V. Will Need Homework

- F. We can meditate on Scripture, evaluate our lives and how our time is spent and write down ways/plans to bring more glory to God (a doer of the Word)



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## Conclusion

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