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#### 1. Motivate

When have you been swept up in a moment of excitement?

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# 2. Transition

A video introduction is available. View it at <u>https://watch.liberty.edu/media/1\_0n0m0r5c</u> If you have no Wi-Fi where you teach, best to download from <u>https://tinyurl.com/yxaknsng</u>

Lots of things can make us excited and thankful.

- Today we consider why we should be just as excited about God's working in our lives.
- God deserves our worship and praise.

## 3. Bible Study

3.1 God's Holiness and Great Power

#### Listen for

Psalm 99:1-3 (NIV) The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake. 2 Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations. 3 Let them praise your great and awesome name-- he is holy.

How should the world respond to God's holy reign?

What motivated the psalm writer to write this hymn of praise?

Study the verbs. How do (or should) others respond in relation to the exalted Lord?

How has God revealed His power in your life in ways that caused you to worship Him?

God is terribly awesome and holy, forgiving and punishing. What does that say about the casual "God-is-my-buddy" approach or the presumptuous "God-is-my-bellhop" approach we often take in worship and prayer?

Note the possible meanings of "holy."

- Current dictionary definition: *dedicated or consecrated to God or a religious purpose; sacred*
- Biblical meaning: to be distinct, separate, in a class by oneself
  - This means that the one who is holy is *uniquely holy, with no rivals or competition*.
  - God is so far above and beyond us that He seems almost totally foreign to us. To be holy is *to be 'other,' to be different in a special way*

This psalm invites us to tremble, praise, exalt and worship this holy (unique and distinct) Lord. What are some ways to practice those attitudes each day?

3.2 God's Righteousness and Justice

Listen for how God is a God of justice.

Psalm 99:4-5 (NIV) The King is mighty, he loves justice—you have established equity; in Jacob you have done what is just and right. 5 Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy

Although the Lord is mighty in strength and in His sovereignty can do what He chooses, what characterizes His approach to judgment?

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## Committed to His Worship

What should be the response of His people?

How does this psalm describe the quality of God's reign?

How does God's justice, fairness, or righteousness impact your daily routine?

How can knowing God is always fair and just help you face injustice and unfair situations?

These verses again end with "He is holy." How do we become *convinced* that God is distinct, separate, in a class by Himself?

3.3 God's Answers

Listen for men who prayed on behalf of God's people.

Psalm 99:6-9 (NIV) Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel was among those who called on his name; they called on the LORD and he answered them. 7 He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud; they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them. 8 O LORD our God, you answered them; you were to Israel a forgiving God, though you punished their misdeeds. 9 Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his holy mountain, for the LORD our God is holy.

Why does the psalmist make reference to Moses, Aaron, and Samuel? For what were they commended?

What assurance does this psalm offer to those who call on the Lord?

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What do these verses teach us about a lifestyle of worship?

How can we tremble at God's holiness yet still have an intimate relationship with Him?

Use the last page as a handout so your learners can take home the application points of this week's lesson.

# Application

Evaluate.

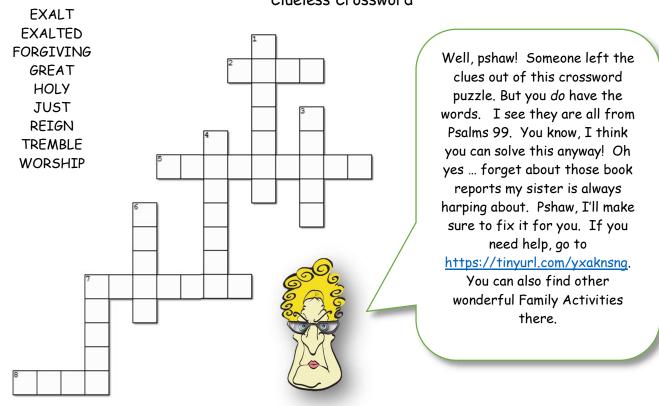
- Make a list of the things you focus on doing during the week and the ways you like to spend your time.
- Do an honest evaluation and determine if any of those things are objects of worship.
- Ask God to reveal your heart and lead you to make Him first in your worship.

Trust.

- If you are currently in a situation marked by injustice, consider the ways you have responded and should respond.
- Lift the matter to God in prayer and trust Him to respond. Praise Him for His love and justice.

Worship.

- Set aside a day or a half a day for extended worship—just you and God.
- Confess sin.
- Read Scripture to God as a form of worship.
- Focus on God's character and all He has done for you.
- Let that focus lead you into worship and a closer walk with Christ.



Clueless Crossword