



Time in the Chair

the week of **June 19-24**

DAY ONE: Revealed in Nature Read Psalm 19:1-6

In this psalm (literally, a song) the author David instructs us to look at nature to learn about God. He knew, almost certainly because of his previous occupation as a shepherd, that God speaks through the natural world he's created: a beach, the mountains, or a sunset on a snowy day.

He knew this because he had experienced it on countless days and nights, in countless ways—his “outdoor job” as a shepherd daily exposed him to incredible beauty. But this beauty can't stop at nature in which we see it. David says it must lead us to the God who created it—a magnificent sunset to a magnificent God; a stunning array of stars to a stunning God; and a glorious sunrise to a glorious God. Because God has spoken through nature, what we call “natural revelation,” we can learn about him. He is generous, creative, and good.

As we see and experience his generosity, creativeness, and goodness in creation, God calls us to know him, enjoy him, and trust him. God's revelation in nature is designed to be the first step toward a life-long relationship with him.

This week, take some time for a walk through your neighborhood, on a local trail, or through a park. As you enjoy summer, reflect on what God has made and use it to draw yourself closer to him.

DAY TWO: Father Read Romans 8:15-17

Read the passage and then choose one verse/thought that seems important to you and answer one of these three questions:

1. What does it say about God?
2. What does it say about you?
3. What does it say about others?

Now talk to God about what you read/learned and respond appropriately to it. Take a few minutes to begin **memorizing verse 15** and review it throughout the week.

DAY THREE: Love Him Read Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Let me ask you a question: have you ever had a crush on someone that you'd known forever? Maybe it was somebody you went to kindergarten with and played toddler soccer with. All of a sudden, you saw them differently in junior high or high school. It was like, Hey! Or maybe it was your next door

neighbor. You see each other all the time and then one day, bam—you noticed them in a different way. Nearly every love story begins when two people who finally notice each other. In fact, the opposite is true, too. It's really hard for people to love each other if they never stop to notice each other. If they never pay attention.

So while this whole series will give us a number of ways we can love God, I want you to know it all starts with this one idea. **Notice Him.** Pay attention, even if it's just for this week, to the places where His wiring is obvious in the world.

- When you see an awesome sunset, **notice Him.**
- When the weather is perfect and you just feel great, **notice Him.**
- When you're in class dreaming about Spring Break and those perfect ocean waves, remember He made them. **Notice Him.**
- When you do something nice for another person and something in you feels good about it, even though you didn't benefit from it, that's His image in you. **Notice Him.**
- When you see a commercial about a parent and child that just gets to you, remember He's the perfect Father. **Notice Him.**
- When you realize your mom loves you even when you don't deserve it, that's His wiring in her. **Notice Him.**

And I think you'll find, that the more you notice Him, the easier it will be to **love Him.**

DAY FOUR: Creator Read Genesis 1:1-27

Read the passage and then choose one verse/thought that seems important to you and answer the questions that apply:

- Is there a sin to avoid?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an application to make?
- Is there something new about God?

Then talk to God about what you read/learned and respond appropriately to it.