**A Most Important Word**

Lance Witt gave this sermon
What is the most important word in the Bible?
Perhaps GLORY
1643 English Parliament got together religious leaders
met off and on for 5 years in Westminster Abby
Shorter Westminster Confession
some of life’s and theology’s biggest questions. And the first question they dealt with is the question: What is the chief end of man? Why does man exist? What is he put here for? only 11 words. And five of the 11 words were simply restating the question.

Here’s what they said: “Man’s chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever.”

We should understand the word "Glory"
Look through the Bible
Old Testament MOSES / MT SINAI
 **17**To the Israelites at the foot of the mountain, the glory of the Lord appeared at the summit like a consuming fire. Ex 24:17

surface of brilliant blue lapis lazuli, as clear as the sky itself. 24:10

It's mysterious and always impressive, supernatural, and awe inspiring.
“Then show me your glorious presence.” Ex 33:18
TEMPLE

**34**Then the cloud covered the Tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. **35**Moses could no longer enter the Tabernacle because the cloud had settled down over it, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. Ex 40:34-35
How do you explain glory? or Beauty or wind or blog
Hebrew words means weighty or heavy. And the idea is that the weightiness or abundance of God's amazing attributes make up his glory. Like a car is LOADED

the manifestation of God's essence
to glorify something, it’s to make something famous or to give honor to something.

**1**The heavens proclaim the glory of God. Ps 19:1
the beauty, perfection,
Sun 93 million miles away, not too warm, not too cold
his power, volcanos, stars, creative (baby)

New Testament
So the Word became human[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+1&version=NLT#fen-NLT-26025d)] and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+1&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-26025e" \o "See footnote e)] And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son. John 1:14
The Son radiates God’s own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command.  Hebews 1:3
We see God in Jesus in a concentrated form

Glory of God leaking out :Transfiguration
As the men watched, Jesus’ appearance was transformed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. Matthew 17:3

HEAVENLY CITY
And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light. Rev 21:23 no electricity, God's glory illumines Heaven!!
Throughout the bible, God's glory is everywhere.

I have planned this in order to display my **glory** through Pharaoh and his whole army. Ex 14:4

**26**This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God’s people.**27**For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory. Col. 1:26-27

this is an appetizer of what is to come

The glory got on Moses, it's IN US as Christ followers
I got saved at age 7, sins forgiven, child of God, heir with Christ.

So in this life we’re still going to struggle with pain and sin and disease and addiction and disappointment and discouragement. But there is coming a day on the other side of this life when all of that gets removed and we won’t just have the hope of glory; we’ll have the fullness of glory.

it is best for you that I go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+16&version=NLT#fen-NLT-26699a)] won’t come. John 16:7

And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image. 2 Cor. 3:18

how long does it take to become a Christian and the answer is a moment and a lifetime

Martin Luther who said a Christian is never in a state of completion. A Christian is always in the process of becoming.

**1. Contemplate God's Glory**
"Be Still and know that I am God" Ps. 46:10
"Mary pondered these things in her heart"
Driving on the 210, hardly stopped in Claremont
Never until this year went through old town LaVerne.
Highway Driving, miss the small town beauty
Rush jet ski, scuba dive and see the beauty underneath
Read to see the light, but to feel the heat!
pondering the glory of God and his greatness is that it puts life and the universe into perspective. It reminds me of how big he is and that he is beyond my comprehension and that I am not the center of the universe and that I am not such a big deal after all.

**2. Develop a Healthy Fear of God**
**7**“Fear God,” he shouted. “Give glory to him. For the time has come when he will sit as judge. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and all the springs of water.” rev 14:7
Let **the** whole world **fear** **the** **Lord**, and let everyone stand in awe **of** him. ps 33:8

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge Prov 9:10

see God and jump in his lap
Maybe, or fall on your face.
At this, Joshua fell with **his** **face** to the ground in reverence.josh 5:14

Then I said, “It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.” Is 6:5

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid! Rev 1:17

Martin Luther wrote
fear of the Lord is like a child who has tremendous respect and love for his father or mother and who dearly wants to please them. He has a fear or an anxiety of offending the one he loves, not because he’s afraid of torture or even of punishment, but rather because he’s afraid of displeasing the one who is, in that child’s world, the source of security

and love.

Take the spotlight off of US
we are a wedding planner, all focus on others

We are broken and blessed at the same time.
Humbly receiving the glory of God.
Hold that and give God the glory

Reverence his name
do all for his glory, talk about him,
read about him
honor him in secret

obey him

**3. Serve God with Boldness**
**12**Since this new way gives us such confidence, we can be very bold. 2 Cor, 3:11-12
"Do it all for the Glory of God." 1 Cor. 10:31
The first is this: If God’s glory is real, if the glory of God can settle on Mount Sinai and it looks like a consuming fire, and if the glory of God can encounter Moses and Moses sees the backside of the trail of God's glory and his face shines when he comes off the mountain, and if everything that God created and the masterpiece of the galaxies around us in the universe, if that’s his glory, and if Jesus was the glory of God in concentrated form. And if Heaven isn’t going to need an electric power plant because it’s lit up by the glory of God, if all of that is true, really true, not just speculation, not just mythical thoughts of ancient writers, but if that’s actually true then I can live with confidence and boldness because our God is a God of glory and he’s large and in charge and he’s not sitting up in Heaven wringing his hands in worry. And you don’t have to wring your hands or panic either. Because we serve a God who is a God of glory. And actually all the craziness in the world just becomes an opportunity for us in the church. Because the Gospel shines most brightly against the backdrop of sin and brokenness.

So here’s my challenge: Follow God boldly. Share your faith boldly, pray boldly, serve people in Jesus’ name boldly… because he is the God of glory

=-nothing can come against me that God's power can’t handle and I know that some of you are facing incredibly difficult things and you are walking through deep waters today. My comfort for you is lean on God's glory that is in you. And remember it’s just the hope of glory. It’s not the fullness yet. But someday we will have the fullness.