

DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHAPTER 1

- 1. Why do you think philosophers throughout history have set out to answer the question of who God is and what he is like?
- 2. What is the significance for us of answering this question from Scripture?
- 3. How does the reality of God's "otherliness" give you a proper perspective on yourself?
- 4. Which of God's incommunicable attributes draws you most into worship of God?
- 5. Which of God's communicable attributes draws you most into worship of God?

CHAPTER 2

- 1. In your own words, summarize why the doctrine of the Trinity is so essential to Christianity?
- 2. How does the mystery of this doctrine give us proper perspective on our human limitations?
- 3. What attributes belong to God because of his Triune nature (think community, communication, etc.)?
- 4. How does the doctrine of the Trinity lead you to worship God?

CHAPTER 3

- 1. What is the significance of God coming himself to communicate his nature to us (rather than sending a proxy or messenger)?
- 2. How does the incarnate Christ (God made flesh) give us access to the knowledge of God?
- 3. How does dwelling on the en-fleshed nature of Christ's earthly ministry and life give you a deeper picture of the salvation he came to afford to you?
- 4. How does the ascension challenge you to re-think the way you imagine eternity (particularly in terms of your own embodied experience)?
- 5. How does the doctrine of the Incarnation lead you to worship God?

CHAPTER 4

- 1. In what ways has the doctrine of the Spirit confused you in the past? What in this chapter provided the most clarity?
- 2. In what ways is the Spirit's work the same in the Old and New Testaments? In what ways is it different?
- 3. Are you ever tempted to think of the Spirit as less than the Spirit of Christ or the very presence of God?
- 4. How does the "deposit" of the Spirit give you confidence in God's salvation promises?
- 5. How does a doctrine of the Spirit lead you to worship God?

CHAPTER 5

- 1. How have you been tempted to disassociate Christ's work apart from Christ's person?
- 2. Think through doctrines of salvation (like redemption, adoption, etc.; name others as you're able). How do they relate to the doctrine of union with Christ?
- 3. When you think of salvation in terms of union with Christ, what impact does it have on your concept of sanctification?
- 4. How does a doctrine of salvation lead you to worship God?

CHAPTER 6

- 1. What is the theological significance of God being a communicative God? Where would we be if he was a non-talkative God?
- 2. Is this how you think about the Bible? As God's self-communication?
- 3. How does the Bible's very composition and compilation remind you that he is sovereign?
- 4. As the Bible is God's self-revelation, how do you think this should influence how we read Scripture?
- 5. How does the doctrine of the Word lead you to worship God?

CHAPTER 7

- 1. Do you share God's affectionate perspective on the church? Why or why not?
- 2. What distinct roles do the global and local church play? What roles do they share?
- 3. How does serving in the church embody the upside down way of God's Kingdom?
- 4. How does the doctrine of the church lead you to worship God?

CHAPTER 8

- 1. What are some of the messages regarding the end times that you grew up with? Do they line up with Scripture's vision of a renewed world?
- 2. What is the theological difference between God's making all new things and God's making all things new?
- 3. How does a doctrine of final things remind us of our human limits of comprehension? How can you trust God with the mystery that remains in his Word regarding final things?
- 4. How does the doctrine of final things lead you to worship?