WBF FALL 2022 IN HIS IMAGE SUPPLEMENTAL HOMEWORK QUESTIONS

Dear Ladies – Welcome to the study of In His Image. At the end of each chapter, Jen Wilkin lists several Scriptural references. I have decided not to add questions for those as I am trusting the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth as you consider those verses. Please spend time with each one. I encourage you to write in your journal how those verses reveal the character of God as well as to how we then shall live. I also encourage (and challenge) you to select one verse each week to memorize....or to write on a notecard and keep where you will see it often. Allow God's word to flood your thoughts and thereby transform your heart. Following are the supplemental questions I have developed for each chapter. Please note I have numbered them to follow Jen's questions. I hope they lead you to deeper reflection as we all seek to increasingly bear His image and grow in sanctification, "for this is the will of God." (I Thess. 4:3). Thank you for joining me on this journey. You are each precious to our Lord and Savior and I thank God for you. Blessings on you – Julie

CHAPTER 1: GOD MOST HOLY

5. On page 22, Jen cites a definition of holiness by A.W. Pink as the sum of all moral excellency, "the antithesis of all moral blemish or defilement." In your own words, how would you define holiness?

6. What attribute of God do you tend to emphasize the most in your view of Him? If you were to focus on His holiness, how would that impact your daily walk? Behaviors? Attitudes?

7. React to Jen's statement on p. 25 - "If we emphasize any of His attributes above or apart from His holiness, we fashion Him after our own imagining or for our own ends." How have you fallen into this in your own life?

8. Do you agree believe that holiness is an attribute of God we can fully reflect? Why or why not?

9. Consider your life since becoming a Christian. In what areas have you grown in holiness? Spend some time thanking God for that growth.

CHAPTER 2: GOD MOST LOVING

5. Jen states on p. 33 "We have even, at times, invited our worship of romance to invade our worship of God." Do you agree? If so, in what ways?

6. Explain in your own words what it means that "agape" is an act of the will, not merely a feeling. Spend a few minutes dwelling on the fact that God loves us with that type of love. Praise Him.

7. On p. 36 Jen writes that agape "is most purely expressed when we give it to those from who we have nothing to gain." Is there someone in your life to whom you are showing love and neither expecting or receiving anything in return? If not, could there be? Should there be?

8. Why do you think that God said that all the Law and Prophets depend on the Great Command – to agape God and neighbor as yourself?

9. List specific ways that you can this week agape God with all your heart, your soul, your mind and your strength?

CHAPTER 3: GOD MOST GOOD

5. If a friend who is weaker in her faith or an unbeliever is enduring a truly difficult circumstance, how would you explain to her that God is always good? What scripture passages would you use?

6. Maybe that friend struggling to see God's goodness is you....are you in a season or situation where it is difficult for you to truly believe the truth that God is always infinitely good? Choose one of the verses above to memorize and meditate on daily.

7. How can you guard against growing weary of doing good?

8. Reflect on your life.....on past year....past month...past week. List several ways you have seen the goodness of God. Spend time thanking Him.

9. One reason we may not always "feel" that God is good may be rooted in our definition of "good." What is God's definition of good? Again thinking back, can you now see a time when God's goodness truly was revealed but in the moment, you did not see it as such?

CHAPTER 4: GOD MOST JUST

5. Does the justice of God fill you with comfort or unease? Why? (Be totally honest here)

6. To find comfort in God's justice, it is essential to also consider His other attributes. List a few and how those specific traits enable us to completely trust His justice.

7. Do you more often walk in obedience out of love for God's law and a desire to bring Him glory OR out of fear of His discipline and wrath? Or both? Which one was stressed more in your childhood or early years as a Christian?

8. In a similar vein, do you tend to view God more as loving Father or as just Judge? Are you able to see Him as both? Spend time thanking Him that He is both, infinitely.

CHAPTER 5: GOD MOST MERCIFUL

6. Jen states on p. 73 that "God is infinitely merciful but He exercises His mercy as He chooses, according to His sovereign will." Romans 9:15 states that He chooses upon whom He will have mercy. Reach to this truth? Do you struggle to accept that? Why or why not?

7. Read Exodus 25:17-22, Lev. 16:2, 14-15, Write down God's instructions for the mercy seat. Now read Heb. 9:5-28. How has Jesus fulfilled and replaced the need for the mercy seat?

8. Jen writes that "Mercy means forgiving as we have been forgiven." If you struggle at times to forgive others, could it be that you do not truly believe that you have been completely forgiven? Is there any past sin for which it is hard for you to accept God's total forgiveness and cleansing? Or are there any that you have not yet sincerely confessed, perhaps due to shame....or the frequency with which you fall into it?

CHAPTER 6: GOD MOST GRACIOUS

5. In what ways do you sometimes strive to "earn" God's grace?

6. Why is it critical to understand that salvation has always been by grace.....even in the O.T. prior to Jesus' life, death and resurrection?

7. On p. 87, Jen writes that to demand grace is to defile it. Do you agree? Why or why not?

8. Explain Jen's statement on p. 91 - "Grace points us to our need for the Law."

9. Write our 2 Timothy 2:1. Memorize it. Make it a daily prayer request this week.....to be strong in the grance that is in Christ Jesus. What does it look like to be strong in the grace?

CHAPTER 7: GOD MOST FAITHFUL

5. What are some memorial stones you can carry in your heart as reminders of God's faithfulness to you?

6. Read Jen's sentence in the middle of p. 102 – "Trials always prove the faithfulness of God, though it may take years to see.....God is faithful in the midst of trial." Do you believe that in the depth of your soul? Why or why not?

7. Write out Hebrews 10:23. Memorize it. What specific truths about God do you struggle to hold fast? Ask the Spirit to bring to mind often that "He who promised is faithful."

8. On p. 106, Jen lists several areas in which we can choose the way of faithfulness: our time / abilities / thoughts / words / reputation / integrity in our commitments (yes be yes). In which of these areas do you find it easier to be faithful? In which area do you struggle to be faithful?

CHAPTER 8: GOD MOST PATIENT

5. Why does God admonish us repeatedly to WAIT on the Lord....to be patient in trial and with others? What benefit / blessing does He know we will receive?

6. Think of a person who has shown you patience? How did that make you feel? What were possible consequences if they had NOT been patient with you?

7. Reflect on Jen's statement on p. 112 that "God's patience implies expectancy. He is waiting for resolution." How should that spur us on to greater obedience?

8. In what area / relationship / trial are you feeling most impatient? Do you struggle to believe that God's timing is perfect?

9. Which is most difficult for you – patience with sinners or in circumstances or in suffering? What can you do to grow in patience in that area?

CHAPTER 9: GOD MOST TRUTHFUL

5. People claim they value truth yet often, "little white lies" or "shading" the truth come all to easily. Why do you think that is?

6. And actually, a follow-up question is do you think the world today truly values truth? Why or why not?

7. On p. 123, Jen states that "Sin is not merely the rejection of God's will. It is the rejection of truth...". How does our sin reject God's truth?

8. What are the dangers of moral relativism and of "my truth / your truth" perspectives? How do we guard against falling into that mindset?

9. Reflect on John 8:31-32. What has the Truth set you free from?

CHAPTER 10: GOD MOST WISE

5. Think of a time when you experienced first-hand that God's wisdom is higher than yours. How should that impact you in the future?

6. Identify several current examples of what the world calls wisdom but is foolishness in God's kingdom.

7. Similarly, list several examples of what the world calls foolish but is wise in God's eyes.

8. Memorize James 1:5. In what situation or relationship or decision, do you need to ask God for wisdom?

Well dear friends, you have crossed the finish line.....at least for this study. But remember the race continues. And we are to run it with endurance, fixing our eyes on Jesus. And let us hold fast the confession of our hope. For He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. Cling to Him who upholds you with His righteous right hand. And remember always, that the will of the Lord is for your sanctification....to be continually transformed that we may increasingly reflect His image, by His grace and for His glory. You are loved, sweet sister, by the Creator God and King of all Kings. Rest in that. Rejoice in that. And share that with the world in desperate need.

Colossians 1:9-14