

1. Read straight through Psalm 33. In the light of this psalm, what are some words that you would use to describe the Lord and why?

-Powerful, creator, sovereign, purposeful, faithful, steadfast...

1b. How has your understanding of the Lord grown over the past year?

-Looking back at some of the words we just listed, how has God proven them true in the last year? What parts of his beauty are even more beautiful/real to you right now? What contributed to that development?

2. Read Psalm 33:2-3. What principles do we see in these verses that guide our worship together as a church?

-We have instruments, stringed instruments, new songs...etc. Our use of all of these attributes (whether we at Sovereign Hope use them or not) should be to celebrate God, not simply to celebrate the instruments or skill of the musicians. Our worship should be human powered (out of the human heart) but it should also be Godward in direction.

3. Psalm 33:5 says that "the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord." Where do you see the evidence of this? See Psalm 145:9, Matthew 5:45 and Acts 14:17.

-These verses show God's common grace to all people through his giving of rain. Psalm 145:9 speaks of those who have experienced grace. Therefore, not only does creation testify to the love of the Lord, we testify that God is steadfast in love. We can see it in the "common grace" that God has given all people: even sinners can be charitable, selfless and loving. This is because God has graciously granted them to do so.

3b. Read verses 8-9. Why should creation cause all the inhabitants of the world to fear and be in awe of God? Read Romans 1:19-20.

-Through creation God has revealed himself (see part 1 of question 3). God has revealed his divine power and attributes in such a way that we no longer have excuses for not believing. If you have eyes to see, you should stand in awe of the God behind creation. The thing which keeps all people from standing in awe is the presence of sin which blinds hearts.

4. Look at verses 16-17. What are two of your most common "war horses," or false idols you put your hope into?

-Money, grades, family, career, relationships...etc. Depending upon the intimacy of your group, this question could be very superficial, or very heartfelt. Be sure you give time and safety when dealing with this question. Start with your own answers to open to door for others to share.

4b. Read Psalm 135:15-18. Reflect on your two answers above. How are those things insufficient in contrast to God? (How can God do what those idols cannot?)

-For instance if you said money, God is the one who is the true provider. If it is relationships, God is the truest and most important relationship....etc.