



Pointers and questions on the book of

Psalms:
Selection A

PSALMS

Session 2

Psalm 19

God speaks to us —through his creation and through his word

Summary

The splendour of creation is God speaking to us about his own majestic greatness. But God has spoken to us in an even more powerful way: through his word. That word penetrates to the depths of our being just as the rays of the mid-day sun penetrate into the shadows.

- v1-4a** The created order—especially the heavenly bodies—is a universal language by which God speaks to people everywhere about his greatness.
- 4b-6** The sun, in particular, is his champion spokesperson.
- 7-11** But God's word—his law—speaks much more clearly and specifically than creation. It brings the light of understanding to his people, enabling them to walk in safety and success.
- 12-14** David, the author of this psalm, wants the light of God's word to shine even into those parts of his mind and motivation that we call the subconscious. He asks the Lord to help him think and speak in a way that will be honouring to such a mighty God.

Questions to get you thinking

1. Describe experiences you have had where you were so touched by the majesty of creation that you lifted your heart to God in thanks and praise.
2. Look at the New Testament passage that teaches the same message as this psalm: Romans 1:18-20. How do the two passages differ in emphasis?
3. Look at the way God's word is described in v7-9 and the effects it can have on those who open themselves to it. Talk about the different aspects shown here—which are like the different facets of a cut diamond.
4. If God's word is so precious, why do you spend so little time reading and meditating on it?
5. Verses 10-11 speak in terms of riches and rewards—concepts we normally think about in monetary terms. In what ways does God's word represent more durable wealth?
6. Are you keener on making money than on accumulating spiritual wealth? Do you need to make some adjustments to your priorities here?
7. Talk about 'hidden faults' and 'wilful sins' (v13-14). Is one type any more serious than the other? How concerned are you about both types in your own life?
8. The last verse is a searching one. Which aspects of conduct does it refer to?
9. Of the many titles David could have used to describe God in this last verse, why do you think he uses the two he does?

