



SEEING RIGHTLY

How Our View of God Shapes Our Whole Life

A PRAYER GUIDE FOR UNDERGROUND TN · UGTN.ORG

PROJECTING OUR PAST EXPERIENCE INTO REALITY NOW

Have you ever been around a dog, cat or horse who have been mistreated? A sudden move creates a fear response.

Or has a friend or loved one ever innocently said or done something with a loving heart, but it triggered something in you and you responded with hurt or anger. WHY???

CHECK OUT THIS 5 MINUTE VIDEO

WATCH: “Rethinking Thinking” — Trevor Mabber,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJLqOclPqis>

This video introduces the “LADDER OF INFERENCE” — how our minds race from a bare observation to a belief to an action in seconds, often without us noticing.

I would propose the same kind of thing can happen with our view of God the Father. The experience of our earthly father can radically skew a person’s view of God. So can hardship or traumatic events.

When the enemy (Satan and demons) hurts someone – they immediately whisper a lie that blames God. This **wound then whisper tactic** manipulatively employed in subtleness and with consistent frequency can totally skew someone’s view of God.

Then when hard circumstances or painful challenges confront us, we climb the same ladder of inference with God: a hard season becomes “God is distant,” an unanswered prayer becomes “God doesn’t care about me.”

WHY THIS MATTERS

Our gut level, instinctive response when we think of God will impact every prayer we pray, every step of obedience we take, every way we handle fear or failure. Our responses flow from one hidden question: ***what do I actually believe God is like?*** Not our stated doctrine — but our operating image of God. That image, more than anything else, is what shapes our obedience, our prayers, our apprenticeship, our generosity, and our hope.

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

— A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

Exodus 34:6–7 — When Moses asked GOD to show him His glory, instead God showed him his GOODNESS. *“The Lord, the Lord, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin.”*

Numbers 13:30–33 — Twelve spies saw the same land and heard the same promises from God. Ten saw giants and despaired; two saw the same giants and remembered who God was. Their view of God, not the giants, determined their courage.

1 Samuel 17:37 Facing Goliath... David’s view of God was radically different than the army of Israel’s. *“The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.”*

Psalms 73:23–26 — Asaph nearly stumbled, envying the proud, until he his view of God was corrected (v.17). Only then could he say: *“I am continually with you (God); you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel...Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you...My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart”..*

PRAYER POINTS

EXAMINE — Naming My View of God

Holy Spirit, show me what I actually believe about God the Father — not what I say I believe. What assumptions about His character am I living from today? What words would describe how I view his love and care for me? What experiences are shaping me?

RENEW — Receiving a True Image

Holy Spirit, help me confess lies I have believed about my Heavenly Father. Reveal to me what is true when I believed those lies. Father show me your goodness and rem how you have shepherded me. me m

PRAY – For Holy Spirit Power to Comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of God’s love (Eph.3:15-19)