

# AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

**Topic: The Glory of His Presence**  
**Text: 1 Corinthians 2: 4-11**

**Wednesday, October 30, 2024**  
**Facilitator: Adenike Akoh**

1 Corinthians 2:4-11 NLT: “And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. [5] I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God. [6] Yet when I am among mature believers, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this world or to the rulers of this world, who are soon forgotten. [7] No, the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. [8] But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord. [9] That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.” [10] But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God’s deep secrets. [11] No one can know a person’s thoughts except that person’s own spirit, and no one can know God’s thoughts except God’s own Spirit.”

### Definition of Glory

God’s glory is the magnificence, worth, loveliness, and grandeur of God in his many perfections. Glory communicates God’s special presence, e.g. [Exod. 13:21–22](#); 40:34–38. The Hebrew term for glory is *kabod*, meaning “weight” or “heaviness.” it could have the sense of “honorable,” “dignified,” “exalted,” or “revered.” Glory is God’s manifest presence.” The primary Greek term for glory is *doxa*, refers to an “opinion,” “conjecture,” “repute,” “praise,” or “fame.” referring to God’s manifestation of his person, presence, and/or works, especially his power, judgment, and salvation.

Glory is at the heart of the gospel. It is an expression of who God is, all that he has done, what he is doing and how he does what he does. The glory of a thing refers to the usefulness, nature, character of a thing. The scripture is full of various contexts and terms for the glory of God but today we are focusing on glory as God’s presence made visible or manifest in the lives of men.

### Glory in the Old Testament

We see glory as *God’s presence especially in the exodus*. The manifestations to Moses ([Exod. 3 : 1-7](#)), which enabled him to take on the mighty task of bringing Israel out of Egypt with several signs and wonders; the glory cloud ([Exod. 13: 20-22](#)) and God’s presence in the tabernacle ([Exod; 40:34–38](#)); **34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. 35 Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. 36 In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out; 37 but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out—until the day it lifted. 38 So the cloud of the Lord was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels. all highlight God’s presence”.**

In a nutshell, the glory of God is the experience or visible expression of the power and presence of God. In John 2:11 when Jesus turned water into wine, He manifested forth His glory. That was the manifestation of power described as the glory. When God came down upon mount Sinai, the Israelites saw the glory of God like fire. It was the manifestation of the presence. At the dedication of the temple the cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord. (1 Kings 8:10-11).

## Glory in the New Testament

In the New Testament we see the glory in the person of Christ - [John 1:14](#). Jesus was revealed and the word, "dwelt" among us is same as the literal presence of God when God tabernacled in the midst of Israel. His purpose is to make the Father known to man, to reveal the mystery of the kingdom of God - [Col. 1:26-27](#), **"This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people. For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory."** NLT

However, the average believer is not conscious, or does not understand this realm of God which is meant to be our natural habitat, after we have been made alive with Christ. We see an example of this gap in the experience of Zechariah in Luke 1: 5-25, 57-80. He was a priest, he brought the prayers of the people to God as represented in the incense that he administered. Himself and his wife were righteous, he knew the priestly tasks, they prayed to have a child, but he was not conscious of the realm of God. The angel shut his mouth until God's glory was revealed.

## Walking in the Glory of His Presence

1. Jesus introduced the Holy Spirit to us ([John 14-12-17; 25-26, Chp15, 16](#). as He who will lead us into all truth!
2. God wants to manifest his glory, wants to display his presence, as he did with Moses in Egypt, with Daniel who received the revelations for the ages. Like John on the Island of Patmos, we have to (Revelations 4:1) **"...Come up here, and I will show you what must take place in the future."** AMPC. Jude verse 20. The Lord who is the Spirit wants believers to navigate His realm. We must learn the art of waiting on the Lord until we know His mind and see His works in our lives Habakuk 2:1. It calls for prayer without ceasing.
3. Gaze at the mirror of God's word - 2 Cor.3:18, **"And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit."** AMPC. **0**The road to experiencing God's glory starts by ingesting God's word daily.
4. Transformation. Rom. 12:1-2, **"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. [2] Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."** NIV

God's glory shines through us as we allow His word and Spirit to change us from who we were before we came to Christ into ambassadors of the realms of God, living in the reality of the heavenly places in Christ, where we are seated. **Ephesians 2:<sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,<sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

All the above are call for the strengthening of our inner man with which we explore the realm of God. We must labour through prayer to make our spirits sensitive to God's presence so that His glory can be made manifest in the world through us.