

AWESTRUCK

- **Psalm 33:8 (NKJV)** – *Let all the earth FEAR THE LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world STAND IN AWE of Him.*
- We must fight to make sure we stay in a posture of the Fear of God
- We must also STAND IN AWE of Him: His Faithfulness, His Mercy/Grace, and His Amazing Love!
- **QUOTE:** *This life in Christ is a continual journey to balance a closeness with God that allows us to experience the fullness of His life of Grace and a healthy respect for Him that causes His voice to resonate in our hearts.*
- This is even true of the spiritual leaders God places in our lives. Get close...but not too close.
- **Joshua 3:3, 4 (GNT)** – *“...When you see the priests carrying the Covenant Box of the Lord your God, break camp and follow them. ⁴ You have never been here before, so they will show you the way to go. But do not get near the Covenant Box; stay about half a mile behind it.”*
- **QUOTE:** *It's deadly for leaders to allow ourselves to become so common that the people we are called to lead lose respect for the anointing God gave us to serve them.*

Week #3 – Copycat

Ephesians 5:1 (AMP) – *Therefore become imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father]*

- When we live in a deep respect for God, it causes us to want to IMITATE His behavior and character.
- **IMITATE** (Gr. *Mimetes*) – *to imitate someone or mimic what you see someone else doing. It literally means to act like someone else.*
- **QUOTE:** *We are called to study God's character; His ways, His speech, and His thoughts, so that daily we are growing to become more like Him.*

God's Character

God is Love

I John 4:7, 8 (GNT) – *Dear friends, let us love one another; because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love DOES NOT KNOW GOD, for **GOD IS LOVE.***

- We are called to IMITATE the Father by loving other people. And, it's not a SUGGESTION!!
- **John 13:34, 35 (MSG)** – *Let me give you a new COMMAND: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other.*
- **GOD IS:** Patient, Kind, Selfless, Serving, Gracious, Forgiving, Not Jealous, Not Boastful, Not Proud, Not Conceited, Not Moody, Not Resentful, Doesn't Keep Score of Wrongdoing, It's Steady, Dependable, and Always Ready to BELIEVE THE BEST of Every Person.

God is Holy

I Peter 1:13 – 16 (NLT) *So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. ¹⁴ So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't*

know any better then. ¹⁵ But now you must BE HOLY in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. ¹⁶ For the Scriptures say, “You must be holy because I am holy.”

- We are once again admonished to IMITATE our Father’s character. HE IS HOLY!!
- *Holy – separate and sanctified; dedicated for God’s use that is pure and untainted. Fully committed to God’s standard, as revealed in the word of God and clarified by the leading of Holy Spirit.*
- **QUOTE:** *God’s brand of holiness is committed to looking into the mirror of the Bible to compare our behavior to God’s standard while asking Holy Spirit to help us adjust to His holy way.*

God is Just

- **Deuteronomy 32:4 (NLT)** – *He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect. Everything he does is JUST AND FAIR. He is a faithful God who does no wrong; how just and upright he is!*
- *Just (Oxford dictionary) – behaving according to what is morally right or fair.*
- For God to be “just” means he is always consistent, virtuous, innocent, and right.

God is Merciful

- It’s amazing when we are beneficiaries of God’s mercy (not giving us what we deserve).
- But just as we are able to benefit from His mercy, we are called to be dispensers of His mercy.

God is Faithful

- *Faithful – true to His word, able to be trusted, one who keeps His promises.*
- Be slow to give your word...but then do everything in your power to keep it when you do.
- **Psalm 15:1 – 4 (NLT)** *Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill? ² Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts. ³ Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends. ⁴ Those who despise flagrant sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the Lord, and KEEP THEIR PROMISES EVEN WHEN IT HURTS.*