

The God of Infinite Provision

SELF-SUFFICIENT

Needed by all; needful of nothing!

“Teach us, O God, that nothing is necessary to Thee. Were anything necessary to Thee that thing would be the measure of Thine imperfection; and how could we worship one who is imperfect? If nothing is necessary to Thee, then no one is necessary, and if no one, then not we. Thou **dost seek us though Thou dost not need us**. We seek Thee because we need Thee, for in Thee we live and move and have our being. Amen”

The Knowledge of the Holy, A. W. Tozer

Read Genesis 1-3

- Worship and marvel anew at the creative, All-Sufficient One who “spoke the universe into existence” (Psalm 33:9) and now “upholds this universe by the word of His power”. (Hebrews 1:3)
- Are you more prone to see your utter dependence on God “for life and breath, and everything” (Acts 17:25) as a sign of failure, frustration, or as a reason to run with gratefulness to the Source of infinite provision?
- Does the truth that God created Adam and Eve needy, before the fall, change your perspective on your desperate need for His continuous help **and** the help of fellow believers?

“God’s plans don’t rely on our faithfulness,
His joy doesn’t hinge on my good behavior, His glory doesn’t depend on my performance.

He is unruffled and unharmed by my inconsistency.” pg 60

- Thank and praise Him for specific ways these truths bring you hope today!

***“SANCTIFICATION IS THE PROCESS OF LEARNING INCREASING DEPENDENCE,
NOT AUTONOMY.”***

Page 63

“The kingdom of heaven belongs to the poor in spirit. Its King meets us and saves us, not in our self-sufficiency, but in our lack.” *page 66*

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 11-13, helpfully explains how boasting in our weaknesses brings glory to our self-sufficient God, and grace and power to us!

- Read these three chapters slowly, and ask the Lord to open your eyes and give you deeper insight into this countercultural truth.

For Fellowship Group discussions:

Take time to share and discuss "Unmasking self-sufficiency" (pages 63-64)

"WE DENY (OUR) NEED (FOR) GOD AND OTHERS TO OUR PERIL."

page 63

Using Jen's "marks of self-sufficiency" where and how am I denying or rebelling against my need for God and others, and therefore, rejecting the opportunity for "the power of Christ to rest upon me"?

In what specific way(s) *today*, can I obey God's Word by humbling myself and confessing to my fellowship group my need for their wisdom, accountability, prayer, and/or practical help?

Meditate on Hebrews, chapter 1

Look for and Declare the many non-communicable attributes of God highlighted here. Take time to Worship the One who made complete "purification for our sins"; the One who is "the radiance of the Glory of God".

Sing to our God-

who needs nothing from us,
and yet loves and cares for us with an everlasting love!

IMMORTAL INVISIBLE GOD ONLY WISE

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small,
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth Thee.

4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render, O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

1867 text: Walter Chalmers Smith. Based on 1 Timothy 1:17

I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine,
Can peace afford.
I need Thee, O I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour,
In joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide,
Or life is vain.
I need Thee, O I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee.

Songwriters: D. WAGNER / R. LOWRY