



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Speaker: Chris Royalty // Sunday: April 14, 2024

- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) Read Genesis 17:1-8 together.
- 3) What stuck out to you as you read? Is there anything you don't understand? Is there anything you'd like to discuss?
- 4) The first time in the Bible that God reveals himself as "El Shaddai" is in Genesis 17:1. He tells Abram, "I Am God Almighty." Why do you think God revealed himself by this name at this time? (Hint: Think about the larger context of the Abraham story).
- 5) What does the word "almighty" mean?
- 6) How have you seen God be almighty in your life?
- 7) In what areas of your life are you tempted to believe that God is *not* El Shaddai? In other words, where are you taking things into your own hands rather than trusting God?
- 8) Read Job 37:23-24 together.
- 9) What strikes you about the descriptions of God in these verses?
- 10) Listen and respond to these quotes about the name El Shaddai:

"Shaddai evokes the idea that God is able to make the barren fertile and to fulfill his promises."¹

"El Shaddai is the God who so constrains nature that it does His will, and so subdues it that it bows to and subserves grace" (Delitzsch, 2:32).²

- 11) Chris pointed out that the "shad" portion of the El Shaddai names points to God as the one who nourishes and takes care of us.
- 12) Read John 6:35 together.
- 13) How does this verse apply to our lives?

14) End your time in prayer. Ask God to help you apply the things you've discussed and learned during this time of study.

¹ Gordon J. Wenham, Genesis 16–50, vol. 2, Word Biblical Commentary (Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 1994), 20.

² Gordon J. Wenham, Genesis 16–50, vol. 2, Word Biblical Commentary (Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 1994), 20.