



Beyond You Robert Morris

Focus God is faithful and worthy of our trust because He is sovereign, the supreme ruler of the universe. He answers to no one!

Fun What's the wackiest plan you've ever had? Did it work out for you, or did God have a better plan instead?

Review Key Scriptures: Mark 4:35–41, 4:10, 4:40; 1 Timothy 6:15; Revelation 3:14, 19:11; Numbers 23:19; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18, 11:11

1. He is the sovereign Lord of the universe.

1 Timothy 6:15; Mark 4:35–36, 4:10, 4:33–34

God is sovereign, meaning He is the supreme ruler of the universe. There is no king or lord above Him. He is the only “Potentate,” or all-powerful God, and He answers to no one. Even the winds and the waves obey Him. When Jesus told the storm to “be still” (the Greek word *phimoo*) in Mark 4, it meant “to close the mouth with a muzzle.” Why would we ever worry when the sovereign Lord of the universe is our Father?

2. He is faithful and true.

Revelation 3:14, 19:11; Numbers 23:19; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18

Faithful means “full of faith.” The root of faith is “trust,” and the root of trust is “true.” The reason we can trust God is because He is full of truth. The more we know God, the more we can trust Him. Even when we don't think He's being faithful, He is, because He doesn't lie.

3. Faithful or fearful?

Mark 4:40; Hebrews 11:11; Mark 4:35

Have you ever been flooded with fear? Faith can flood you too! Faith is judging God faithful, while fear is judging God unfaithful. You can judge Him faithful more often by remembering the *first* word He gave you and the *fresh* word He gave you.

Remember: Everything we've ever done is beyond us, but it's not beyond God because He is Lord of ALL!

Group Dynamics Idea As Pastor Robert mentioned, the more we get to know God, the more we can trust Him. Get in a Gateway group, join a class, or find a place to serve at any of our campuses. For more information, visit connect.gatewaypeople.com.

Discuss

1. Explain what Jesus meant by "Let us cross over to the other side." Is there more than one meaning behind that statement? (Mark 4:35–36)
2. Do you have any fears that you need to "put a muzzle on"?
3. Pastor Robert shared how God kept his family from buying the wrong house. Share a time when you thought God was being unfaithful when, in fact, He was protecting you from harm.
4. Sarah had every reason to doubt that she would have a child. What can we learn from her example? (Hebrews 11:11)
5. Many times, God offers us a "first word" and a "fresh word." Have you ever been presented with both? If so, explain.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- God is sovereign, meaning He is the supreme ruler of the universe. He answers to no one!
- The more we know God, the more we can trust Him.
- Faith is judging God faithful, while fear is judging God unfaithful.
- Everything is beyond us, but nothing is beyond God.

Prayer

God, we honor You and praise You for who You are—the absolute, sovereign Lord of all. Thank You for being our faithful and trustworthy Father. Even when it seems hopeless, You show us who You are, time and time again. You are good, and we love You. Thank You for Your Son. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Pray for those in the group who may struggle with feelings of hopelessness in their marriage, finances, health, or other areas. The media is filled with stories about people who make life-changing decisions that can be detrimental to them and others. Pray that many would instead make the life-changing decision to accept Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives.