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# THE OLOGIES

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Lesson 1 – The Eternal One



# The Ologies – Study and Gathering Guide

## 1 THE ETERNAL ONE

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MAIN POINT:

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### MESSAGE NOTES:<sup>1</sup>

Listen to or view message #1 in *The Ologies*, “The Eternal One,” at [pscconline.com](http://pscconline.com). You can also find it by searching for Pleasant Street Church of Christ on your favorite podcasting service or on the Faithlife app on Roku.

#### *Thought Questions:*

1. What is the connection between rest and God’s will?
2. How has God worked to restore us to rest?
3. When did he do this work?
4. How do we join God in his rest?

#### *Next Steps:*

1. How have you chosen toil instead of rest?
2. How is God calling you to rest in his perfect will?

#### *Obedience Challenge: Observe a Sabbath Day.*

- Spend a day away from the influences of this world and from the tyranny of the urgent. Clear your schedule and unplug from your devices. Commit to do nothing which might be considered a task. Go on a walk, read an inspirational book, nap etc. To make the most of this time, you should consider preparing meals ahead of time, going out to eat, or fasting. If you become tempted by a task, write it down for later and pray that God will address it.

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<sup>1</sup> You will share your notes during the Collaboration time of your Life Team meeting.

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## DAILY DEVOTION GUIDE:

Read the following Scriptures about God, the Eternal One, throughout this week. Use the [SOAP journaling method](#) to help you go deeper into the text. (See Handout)

- Monday – Habakkuk 1:1-11
- Tuesday – Habakkuk 1:12-2:1
- Wednesday – Habakkuk 2:2-8
- Thursday – Habakkuk 2:9-20
- Friday – Habakkuk 3:1-10
- Saturday – Habakkuk 3:11-19

During your Life Team meeting, you'll be given the opportunity to share some of your Application entries. Consider bookmarking any that you'll want to share by way of confession or to encourage others.

Or copy it here for easy reference:

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## INTERGENERATIONAL GATHERING GUIDE:

### Primer Exercise:

#### *For Children*

Play with a toy car. Set up the racetrack or path so that part of it will be hidden from the perspective of the car. Put something silly or strange on the hidden part of the road and put the car at the beginning of the track. Ask your child(ren),

*What do you think will happen when the car travels on this road?*

*How do you think the people in the car will feel when that happens?*

Have your child push the car along the road. Have everyone pretend they're the people in the car and react like those people would. Say to your children:

*Wow, everything happened like you said it would. When you said what would happen, were you telling the future?*

*How is what you did like the way God sees things? How is it different?*

#### *Everyone Else*

Watch this clip ['Groundhog Day' "I'm a god" scene - YouTube](#) (If you've not seen it, you should probably watch the whole thing). Consider the following questions:

- Knowing that Bill Murray's character, Phil, has been repeating the same day hundreds of times, how would you refute his claim on godhood?
- How would you respond to his musing that perhaps "the real God uses tricks"?

The three sessions below are designed for home devotional use. Each session should be done in a separate sitting.

#### Session One: "Made for Rest"

- Read Psalm 131
- Ask: Who worries more, adults or toddlers? Why do you think that is?
- Read Luke 8:22-25
  - Why did the disciples tell Jesus that they were going to drown?
  - Why did Jesus scold them?
  - How could Jesus be calm in the storm?
  - (For teens and adults) Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote that the Psalms are the songbook of Jesus. What do you think about that?
- Application and Prayer
  - What causes you to freak out?
  - How can God take that burden from you?

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## Session Two: “Christ the Redeemer”

- Read Psalm 81
- Ask: Why don't people have rest if that's what God wants for them?
- Read Galatians 5:1, 13-25
  - What does it mean that Christ is our redeemer? (Have kids look this up in a Bible dictionary or on [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org).)
  - What did Christ set us free from?
  - Why is it important that we remain free?
  - How can we rest and do what God wants us to do at the same time?
- Application and Prayer
  - What kinds of slavery do we need to watch out for in our lives?
  - What do we need God to remind us of when we're tempted away from his rest?

## Session Three: “Rest in the Shadow”

- Sing “He That Dwelleth in the Secret Place of the Most High” (Psalm 91:1-2)<sup>2</sup>

*He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High*

*Shall abide under the shelter of the Almighty*

*He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High*

*Shall abide under the shelter of the Almighty*

*And I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge, and my fortress,*

*My God, in Him will I trust*

*And I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge, and my fortress,*

*My God, in Him will I trust*

- Ask: What do you think it means to dwell in the secret place of the Most High?
- Read Jeremiah 10:6-16
  - How is God different from human leaders and from gods made up by people?
  - Why is it foolish and wrong to trust in these other things instead of in God?
  - Why would people want to trust in other humans or in made-up gods?
  - How can we tell if someone trusts in God?
- Application and Prayer
  - What do you need to do differently to put your trust in only God?
  - What concerns do you need to leave in the hands of the Eternal One?

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<sup>2</sup> In case you don't know the tune, you can find a lovely 1970's recording at the DCM channel on YouTube at under [Psalm 91:1-2 He That Dwelleth in the Secret Place of the Most High - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pbh5FSskKcQ) or by typing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pbh5FSskKcQ> into your browser.

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## LIFE TEAM GATHERING GUIDE:

### Worship:

Below are a couple of suggested songs that reinforce the theme. Or you can pick your own from the song book or YouTube.

## All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Words: Fanny J. Crosby

Music: Robert Lowry

1. All the way my Sav-ior leads me: What have I to ask be-side?  
2. All the way my Sav-ior leads me, Cheers each wind-ing path I tread,  
3. All the way my Sav-ior leads me: O the full-ness of His love!

Can I doubt His ten-der mer-cy, Who thro' life has been my Guide?  
Gives me grace for ev-'ry tri-al, Feeds me with the liv-ing bread;  
Per-fect rest to me is prom-ised In my Fa-ther's house a-bove;

Heav'n-ly peace, di-vin-est com-fort, Here by faith in Him to dwell!  
Tho' my wea-ry steps may fal-ter, And my soul a-thirst may be,  
When my spir-it, clothed im-mor-tal, Wings its flight to realms of day,

For I know, what-c'er be-fall me, Je-sus do-eth all things well;  
Gush-ing from the Rock be-fore me, Lo! A spring of joy I see;  
This my song thro' end-less a-ges: Je-sus led me all the way!

For I know, what-c'er be-fall me, Je-sus do-eth all things well.  
Gush-ing from the Rock be-fore me, Lo! A spring of joy I see.  
This my song thro' end-less a-ges: Je-sus led me all the way!

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## Be Unto Your Name

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Words & Music:  
Gary Sadler & Lynn DeShazo

Ps. 29:2

1. We are a mo - ment, You are for - ev - er, Lord of the a - ges, God be-fore  
2. We are the bro - ken, You are the heal - er, Je - sus, Re-deem - er, might-y to

time; We are a va - por, You are e - ter - nal, Love ev - er - last - ing,  
save; You are the love song we'll sing for - ev - er, Bow-ing be-fore You,

**REFRAIN**

reign - ing on high. { Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God al-might - y, Worth-y is the  
bless - ing Your name. { High-est prais-es, hon - or and glo - ry

Lamb who was slain; Be un-to Your name, Be un-to Your name.

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†Sing: “He That Dwelleth in the Secret Place of the Most High” (Psalm 91:1-2) from page 4 as worship and to segue into the discussion on the next page.

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*Read Matthew 6:5-8 aloud and discuss:*

- What connection might exist between the secret place of Psalm 91 and that of Matthew 6?
- Why would pagan prayers be different from prayers offered to the Eternal One?

Pray

- “The Lord’s Prayer” in unison:

*Our Father in heaven,*

*hallowed be your name,*

*your kingdom come,*

*your will be done,*

*on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread.*

*And forgive us our debts,*

*as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,*

*but deliver us from the evil one.*

- Segue into a time of group prayer. The group leader or someone they appoint can close the time when they feel so led.<sup>i</sup>

Collaborate

Each participant should have listened to Message 1 in *The Ologies*, “The Eternal One” in person or online and taken notes.

- Have everyone share their answers to the **Thought Questions** in their *Message Notes*.
- If anyone has already done the **Obedience Challenge**, have them report on how it went and what they learned.
- Encourage (but don’t require) participants to share their **Next Steps** or any **Application** entries from their SOAP journals.
- Close by praying for each other’s **Next Steps** and **Application** entries.

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<sup>i</sup> If your group prayer goes on for a long time or if your meeting has a hard time limit, you could close the meeting here.