

Christianaphobia Series

Wk 3 Point: Don't be afraid, be awestruck.

Don't forget to make the announcements to your group this week!

Discussion Generators

•What has stood out to you from this week of the Christianaphobia point series?

•What are some of the ideas that you had about angels growing up or even in your adult life? What are some things in our pop culture or the previous generations' pop culture that may have tainted our view on angels (Touched by an Angel, It's a Wonderful Life...)?

•Was there anything that you heard during the point that surprised you about what the Bible does or doesn't say about angels?

•Read Revelations 22:8-9. In verse 8 John describes seeing the angel and that he begins to worship it. What happens next? Why is it that the angel stopped John from worshipping him?

•Read Colossians 2:18-19. What is Paul's warning here in relation to angels?

•We did we learn that the Greek word and the Hebrew word for angel meant? (Greek **angelos** meaning messenger, envoy, announcer; Hebrew **malak** meaning messenger, envoy, ambassador who represents the one who sent them) Is there any significance to understanding that for you and why if so? •As a group match up the statements on the left that we know about angels with the correct Bible passage on the right.

Angels were Created

Angels are Spirits

Angels Only Obey God

Hebrews 1:14 (NLT) Psalm 91:9-16 (NLT) Colossians 1:16 (NLT)

•What are the four different types of angels mentioned in the Bible and how were each usually represented? (Leaders the answers are below)

•Cherubim usually represent the presence of God.

•Seraphim are mentioned only once are mentioned in regards to the worship of God and His holiness.

•Archangel seems to be seen as an angel that is in charge of other angels.

•The Angel of the Lord is seen specifically to announce on behalf of God and many believe this to be referring to the preincarnate Jesus.

•Look up the passages listed below and define whether the angel listed in that passage is a cherubim, seraphim, archangel, or angel of the Lord.

Exodus 3:2 Isaiah 6:1-7 Judges 6:11-23

Genesis 3:24 Ezekiel 10:14-15 Jude 1:9 Genesis 16:7-13

•Why do you thing that God does not give us more of a description of angels and their role in His creation? Why would it be wrong for someone to get caught up in angels and what they do or don't do?

Bible Verses

Revelations 22: 8-9 (NLT):

I, John, am the one who heard and saw all these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. But he said, "No, don't worship me. I am a servant of God, just like you and your brothers the prophets, as well as all who obey what is written in this book. Worship only God!"

Colossians 2:18-19 (NLT):

Don't let anyone condemn you by insisting on pious self-denial or the worship of angels, saying they have had visions about these things. Their sinful minds have made them proud, and they are not connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it.

Colossians 1:16 (NLT):

...for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

Hebrews 1:14 (NLT):

Therefore, angels are only servants—spirits sent to care for people who will inherit salvation.

Psalm 91:9-16 (NLT):

If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home. For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go. They will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone. You will trample upon lions and cobras; you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet! The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honor them. I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation."