

# SCHEDULE

1. Introduction	January 18, 2012
2. God and Nature	January 25, 2012
3. History and Jesus Christ	February 1, 2012
4. The Holy Spirit and the Church	February 8, 2012
5. Prayer, Worship, and the Bible	February 15, 2012
6. The Lord's Supper and Dreams	February 22, 2012
7. Work and Service	February 29, 2012
8. Friendship and Suffering	March 7, 2012

## GOD AND NATURE

**OPENING PRAYER:** Praising God of Many Names, Mechtild of Magdeburg, 13th Century

O burning Mountain, O chosen Sun  
O perfect Moon, O fathomless Well  
O unattainable Height, O Clearness beyond measure,  
O Wisdom without end, O Mercy without limit,  
O strength beyond resistance, O Crown beyond all majesty:  
The humblest thing you created sings your praise. Amen.

### OPENING HYMN

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made.  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin;

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### Chapter 1: God

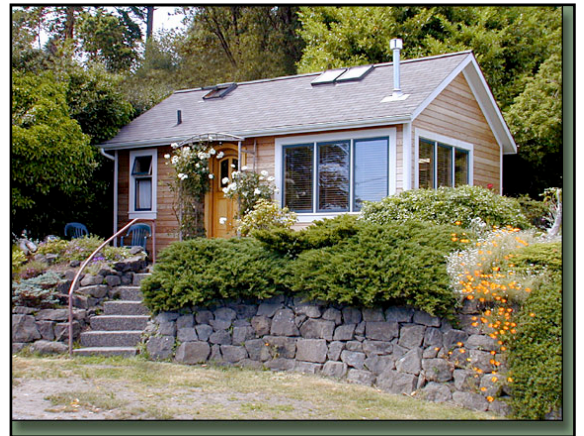
1. What characteristics of God are most revealed to you through Jesus Christ?
2. Why is a dramatic Christian Experience detrimental?
3. What image is most meaningful to you? The shades, the door, or the house?



Roller Shade



Door



Cottage

## Chapter 2: Nature

1. What do you see when you look at the stars?
2. Why is nature incomplete and indistinct as a pure revelation of God?
3. What does nature reveal about God?
4. If Jesus is a window, what is nature?

## CLOSING HYMN

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thy church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise..

## CLOSING PRAYER:

This day is a new day  
that has never been before.  
This year is a new year,  
the opening door.  
Enter, Lord Christ  
We have joy in your coming.  
You have given us life,  
and we welcome your coming. Amen.

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