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Dr. Mack
January 29th, 2023

Lesson 1 Essay

What is one new thing or idea to which you were exposed?

One new idea to which I was exposed is the transcendence of God. Transcendence is defined as “other” or different; the regard to God it is referring to the independence He has from us (bible.org). The notion that He exists outside of the cosmos (Dr. Mack, File: Isaiah 1) is not necessarily foreign to me, rather it is not something that I have deeply thought about before this reading. It has always been understood that God is omnipotent. The emphasis on His strength highlights the fact that He is unmatched by any other being or entity (Oswalt, 60). According to Oswalt, transcendence reflects the nature of God. To be outside of humanity’s full experience almost implies that He can not interact with us, but that is far from reality. I believe God interacts with us to the point where we can physically feel His presence surrounding us.

I believe through prayer, fasting, and worship, we can experience God in a new way. A God that is tangible and present, able to communicate directly to us. Taking the time to focus all of our attention on God and allowing the Holy Spirit to usher Him in gives us the opportunity to feel our transcendent God. Though He is beyond creation and can not be confined to answering to His creation, we can certainly humble ourselves and approach the throne of mercy in humility, opening the door for God to touch us with the love and comfort we desperately need.