

## Week 1 Homework

### Daily Declarations

I am a beholder.

I behold the beauty of the Lord!

### Quote

*We look away from the natural realm and focus our attention and expectation onto Jesus.*  
- Hebrews 12:2, The Passion Translation

### Why Declarations?

The word “declare” has more than one meaning. Merriam-Webster dictionary says, “to make known formally...publically.” A second meaning in Oxford Dictionaries is to “acknowledge possession of.” For SoPM, we’ve designed weekly declarations that acknowledge your spiritual identity and declare actions you want to take related to the week’s teaching. Declarations are on top left of page.

### Encounter through Meditation on the Word

Watch Kirk Bennett’s You Tube video, “Biblical Meditation Made Simple.” Use the RWSSP to meditate on Psalm 27:4, the key verse of the BEHOLD trimester. Use a journal to record your encounter.

*One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek:  
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
To behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple. Psalm 27:4, NASB*

### Home Encounter

#### Focus: The Imagination

When we want to encounter God, we go somewhere quiet without distraction, which includes turning off the phone, and relax in His presence. Then we want to practice using our imagination (which was given to us by God) to connect with Him as a friend.

Practice imagining that Jesus sits down next to you wherever you are. He smiles at you. You can see the love and acceptance in His eyes. He only sees the good in you. You can tell from His smile and gaze on you that His love for you is deep. No one has ever loved you this completely. He says to you, “I have been waiting all day to connect with you.” What do you say in response?

You can also express Psalm 27:4 in your own words:  
*Jesus, if I could boil it down, all the things I need and all the things I want, this is what matters most. I have one desire: to be in Your presence and see You for who You are.*