



Session 7: God Revealed
Suggested Week of Use: July 16, 2017
Core Passages: Psalm 19:1-14

News Story Summary

NASA's Kepler mission recently identified more exoplanets. Kepler was launched in 2009 to provide data about planets in orbit around stars other than the sun called exoplanets. Since the launch, Kepler has observed 200,000 stars in one part of the sky, confirming 2,335 of the 4,034 planets identified to be exoplanets. More than 30 of them have been confirmed to be similar in size to earth. Researchers have also observed that about half of the exoplanets are either gaseous, with no surface, or have such a heavy atmosphere that life on the planets would be impossible.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "NASA's Kepler, exoplanets.")

Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, read the news story summary. Ask: *What does the sheer number of exoplanets reveal about the greatness of God? What does the vastness of the universe say about God?* Write responses on the board. Explain that in Psalm 19, the psalmist shows how God is revealed through nature. An awareness of the vast number of stars and planets beyond earth reminds us that He is far greater than we could ever imagine, and He has included us in His plans.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, remind group members of the news story summary. Also, remind them of what they said about what the vastness of the universe reveals about God. Ask: *How do you fit in with all God has made?* Explain that we are surrounded by great displays of God's creative power that reveal who God is. Challenge group members to visit an area this week where they can reflect on God and what He is revealing to them about Himself.