

Life Group Lesson

Joshua Celebration • Week of November 6

Introduction

We are created to worship. God designed human beings to be like Him, created in His image; and God breathed into us His very breath of life, so that we would forever be connected with Him. God is the giver and sustainer of life and He loves us. God desires that we love Him in return and worship Him, because He wants us to know Him. He wants to bless us with Himself. As we worship the Lord in spirit and in truth He reveals more of Himself and His love to us. He is the treasure, our very great reward. Choosing to spend time in His presence is life-changing. It is vitally important that we include the Lord in everything we do. Come, Holy Spirit!

Thus, understand that God does not exist for you. You exist for God. You are created to glorify, to be in relationship with, *and* to make the Lord known. Simply put, being willing to introduce Jesus to others. We often say we ‘go to worship’ but the truth is, worship is not something we *go* to do. Worship is a daily choice to put the Lord first. It is who you are, who you are about; worship is you at peace, settled in the One to whom you give your truest allegiance. Worship is *giving worth* to the One for whose glory you live. Do you offer your truest and most ultimate love and devotion to the Lord? Do you live to worship God? Each new day you can offer yourself all over again to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is ready to receive you.

Read aloud these words of praise—

“I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever. I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure His greatness. Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power. I will meditate on your majestic, glorious splendor and your wonderful miracles. Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue; I will proclaim your greatness. Everyone will share the story of your wonderful goodness; they will sing with joy about your righteousness. The LORD is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. The LORD is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all His creation” (Psalm 145:1-9).

Background

The psalms are songs, expressions of worship and praise to God. The psalms not only show you how to voice your gratitude to the Lord, but because they are also gutsy and honest, the psalms model how to be utterly honest before the Lord. Think about what it means to give the Lord your heart. That means *all* of you. He already sees it — even the dark and ugly

areas you would rather conceal. When you worship, be honest before the Lord. Give Him your praise and give Him your problems. Respectfully share with the Lord how you *really* feel. He can handle it. What we don’t want to do is hide from the Lord.

It has been said that the Bible is its own commentary. Reading His Word (daily study and reflection) will actually help you live into a lifestyle of worship. The Lord personally teaches us how to worship Him as we spend time *with* Him in prayer, and reading (hearing) His Word. Many of the psalms recount Israel’s history as God’s people. There is a reason for this. As the people of Israel recalled God’s faithfulness in the past, they were encouraged to place their trust in Him *again* in the present and future. Remember worship is a choice. If we don’t worship the LORD God, we will worship someone or something else. When this happens, the Lord must discipline His children like a good and loving Father, holding them accountable for their rebellion and idolatry.

Reading the Text Read Psalm 105:1-45

1. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?
2. What are you going to do about it?
3. How can we help you?

Reflection

When we hear good news, we automatically want to share it. The psalmist says, “Let the whole world know what He has done. Sing to Him; yes, sing His praises. Tell everyone about His wonderful deeds” (vv1-2). God wants His children to not only worship Him in spirit and in truth, but to be vocal about it to others. Worship puts things into proper perspective and helps us to see that it is a privilege to tell other people about the wonderful things the Lord does; that He is good and has made a way for us to know Him personally. There are people around you who need to know that God loves them. People are more open to an authentic invitation to church than perhaps you realize. They may not attend the first time you ask, but like planting a seed, you will see fruit in time. Are you as open to inviting folks as they are to receive the invitation?

In Closing

Think about ‘the woman at the well’ – the Samaritan woman whose story is told in the gospel of John, chapter four. One day as Jesus was nearing the village of Sychar, He wearily sat beside a well (near the field Jacob had given to his son, Joseph). It was high noon. Hot. Just then a woman came to draw water, and to her surprise, Jesus spoke to her. The Lord engaged this woman in a conversation that went from drawing water without a bucket, to how many times she had been married, to the fact that she was now living with a man and not married to him, to the subject of worshipping God, to revealing that He is the Messiah. Something happened in this woman’s heart. Suddenly as she believed the Lord, her past sin and shame did not matter. She had a new mission; and it wasn’t to draw water. It was to share this Living Water she had found. She ran back to the village and told all who would listen that she had met the Messiah.

“The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?’ So the people came streaming from the village to see Him... Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, ‘He told me everything I ever did!’ When they came out to see Him, they begged Him to stay in their village. So He stayed for two days, long enough for many more to hear His message and believe. Then they said to the woman, ‘Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have heard Him ourselves. Now we know that He is indeed the Savior of the world’” (John 4:28-30, 39-42).

Close in a Time of Prayer asking:

How can I pray for my fellow Life Group participants this week?

One Year Bible Readings

November 6: Ezekiel 14:12-16:41, Hebrews 7:18-28, Psalm 106:1-12, Proverbs 27:4-6
November 7: Ezekiel 16:42-17:24, Hebrews 8:1-13, Psalm 106:13-31, Proverbs 27:7-9
November 8: Ezekiel 18:1-19:14, Hebrews 9:1-10, Psalm 106:32-48, Proverbs 27:10
November 9: Ezekiel 20:1-49, Hebrews 9:11-28, Psalm 107:1-43, Proverbs 27:11
November 10: Ezekiel 21:1-22:31, Hebrews 10:1-17, Psalm 108:1-13, Proverbs 27:12
November 11: Ezekiel 23:1-49, Hebrews 10:18-39, Psalm 109:1-31, Proverbs 27:13
November 12: Ezekiel 24:1-26:21, Hebrews 11:1-16, Psalm 110:1-7, Proverbs 27:14

Joshua CELEBRATION

Text: Psalm 106:1-10

Plain Truth:

We _____ God to _____ Him and
_____ to make Him _____.

1. Worship helps us _____ our _____
_____.

2. Worship is _____ for the _____.

3. _____ are meant to be _____.

November 6, 2022