

# LIFE GROUP LESSON

Joshua Series • Week of November 5

## Introduction

Who am I? If someone were to follow me, walk in my footsteps for a day, ten days, a year – what would they understand about me? As a fully devoted follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, is the overarching focus of my day-to-day life one of worship and adoration of the Lord? Do I see myself as a life-long learner – grounded daily in the study of God’s Word, aware of the world around me, dedicated to ever growing and gaining knowledge through experiences the Lord allows me to have? There is power in worship; and often, the very act of learning opens us to a greater capacity to worship. For it is through discipline, that we become disciples. Today we begin a series looking at what it means to be a fully devoted follower here at Christ Church, and this week we look at Worshiping and Learning.

## Background

Throughout the psalms, we are taught how there is power in worship. Worship puts the attention on God and changes our mindset, our perspective on life’s challenges. The psalms show us how true worship requires authenticity on our part; because there is a rawness found in the psalms, many of the psalms embody a candor that model how to unmask false pretense. As we use the psalms to give to the Lord praise and adoration, as well as our petitions, we begin to understand that God already knows what we need. We learn we can be honest because the Lord already knows our hearts. He is mindful of our weakness and limitations. Thus, worship (the psalms) is a powerful tool to get to know ourself better as we get to know the heart of God better. Through a daily lifestyle of worship, we gain a greater capacity to learn.

## Read Psalm 92:1-15

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

Worship is like a replenishing, or refueling station. The refreshment goes beyond Sunday! Although we are called to gather corporately for worship as the body of Christ, we are also given access 24/7 to meet with the Lord *anytime*. Think of a time you were moved to worship the Lord in the secret place (quiet of your heart, or at home with the kids) and as you lifted up praise, He poured down pure refreshment like living water. His invited, acknowledged presence made all the difference. There is an ebb and flow to worship and learning, much like the ebb and flow of giving and receiving. We can never outgive God. The more we praise, the more blessings the Lord pours down. The more blessings the Lord showers down, the more praise we lift up. This is why on November 12<sup>th</sup> – 5 p.m. at the Mountain View campus, Christ Church will be having a night of worship and thanksgiving.

One way to stay youthful is to keep learning and open to trying new things. Jesus encouraged us to be *like* children in our faith. The Lord Jesus is our example of what it means to be a life-long learner. At the age of 12, we see Jesus in the Temple “sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers” (Luke 2:46b-47). After calling his disciples, Jesus pours into them for three years and when speaking of things to come, he calls them to “learn a lesson from the fig tree” (Matthew 24:32). Jesus teaches the crowd through parables, and calls the weary and heavy burdened to “Come to me... Let me teach you” (Matthew 11:28-29). Through worship of the Living God and continuing to learn, we will grow into full maturity. This is the way to be fruitful.

*“... the godly will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon. For they are transplanted to the LORD’s own house. They flourish in the courts of our God. Even in old age they will still produce fruit; they will remain vital and green” (Psalm 92:12-14).*

What keeps us from being life-long learners?

1. Pride. Pride is the enemy of discipleship (learning) and also inhibits worship. In what ways have you seen pride work against a positive attitude toward worshipping and learning?

# JOSHUA SERIES COVENANT

Text: Psalm 92

## PLAIN TRUTH

By \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for God,  
even in our old age we'll \_\_\_\_\_ fruit and will  
remain \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**The Five Essentials in Worship which connect us with God and one another:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Proclamation
3. Confession
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Consecration

**Learning is based on three important attitudes:**

1. Openness
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Application

**Blockages to Learning:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Fear. Fear often keeps us from trying new things, even being around people. Briefly share about a time when you intentionally laid aside fear, and resolved to try something new. What can you learn from this?

3. Success. Ironically, success – when you think *you've arrived* – can be extremely detrimental to growth. Jim Collins says in his book Good to Great, that *good is the enemy of great*. Unwillingness to change may cause us to become 'pickled in complacency.' Who are you learning from? What are you doing to increase your knowledge base? What can you learn from failure?

### **In Closing**

Worship the Lord so that you can learn from him. Learn from the Lord so you can be like him. In fact, let your learning be an act of worship. Now, that's a lesson for all of us!

### **One Year Bible Reading For This Week:**

November 5: Ezekiel 12:1-14:11, Hebrews 7:1-17, Psalm 105:37-45, Proverbs 27:3  
November 6: Ezekiel 14:12-16:41, Hebrews 7:18-28, Psalm 106:1-12, Prov. 27:4-6  
November 7: Ezekiel 16:42-17:24, Hebrews 8:1-13, Psalm 106:13-31, Prov. 27:7-9  
November 8: Ezekiel 18:1-19:14, Hebrews 9:1-10, Psalm 106:32-48, Prov. 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, Prov. 27:12  
November 11: Ezekiel 23:1-49, Hebrews 10:18-39, Psalm 109:1-31, Proverbs 27:13

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