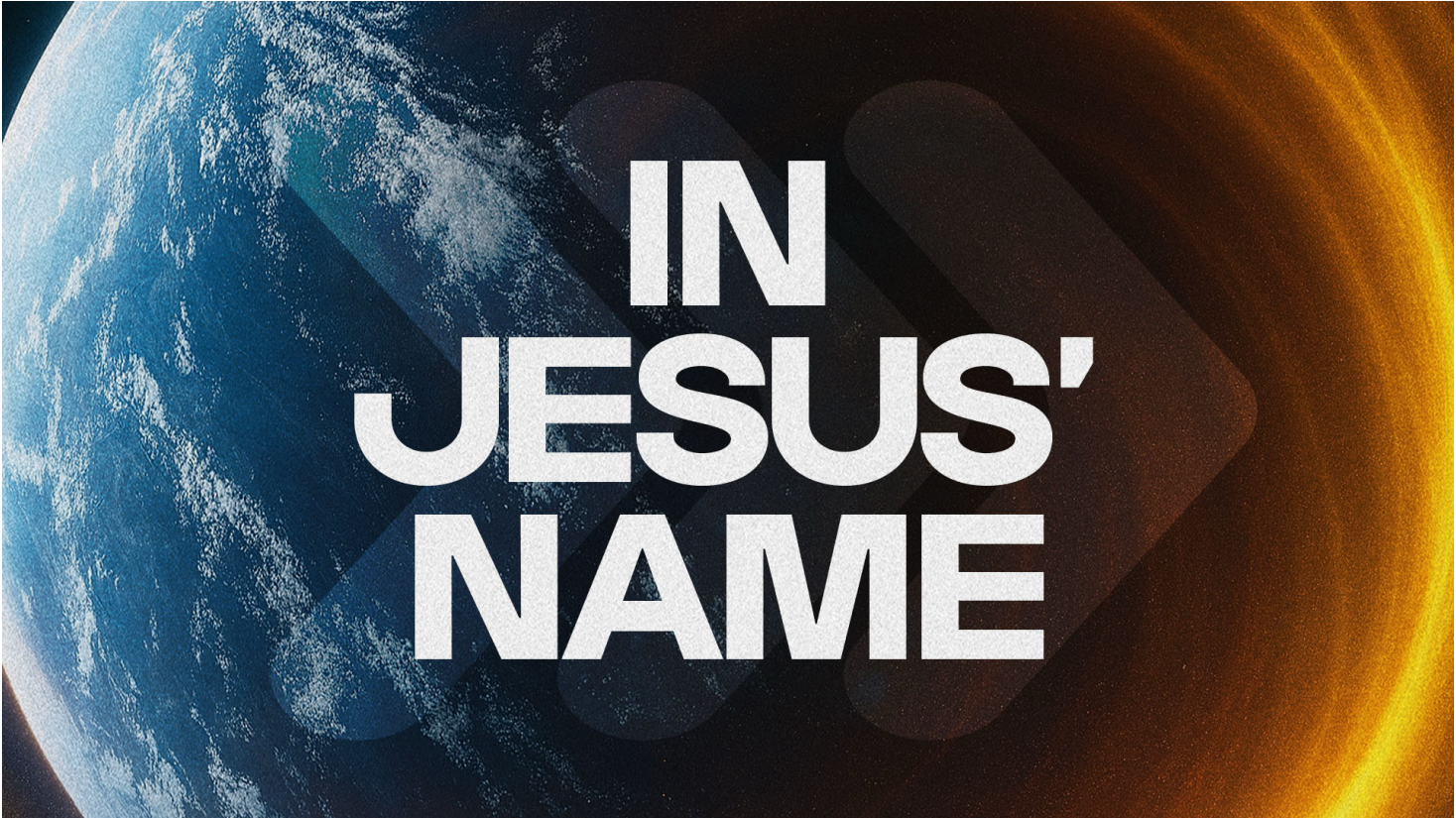




IN JESUS' NAME

Week 5

The Salvation Altar

Use this guide to have deeper discussion with your group.

This Week's Reading

Chapter 8 (pages 121 - 138)

**Reading does not have to be completed before meeting as a group but should be completed within each week.*

Overview

Mark 16:14-18

*Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, **“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.** He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe; **In my name they** will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.*

All prayer altars lead to the Salvation Altar.

Jesus Calls

- Jesus calls us to repent
- Jesus calls us to preach the Gospel
- Jesus calls us to make disciples

Evaluate yourself. How are you answering Jesus' call?

Without the Altar of Salvation...

- We become inward focused and think church is about our needs being met – not about becoming the bride of Christ.
- We risk turning our prayer into self-obsession.
- We spend our days going to church and asking for the blessings of God. What have we gained if Christ is not proclaimed and people aren't saved?
- Peters first altar call
Acts 2:37-38 Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins.

Since the beginning the church has never waited for people to come to them to hear the gospel. They have always gone out to the people and taken the gospel to them.

Wherever people encounter us, they should encounter Jesus.

Have you become inward focused, when it comes to church? How about in your discipleship journey? What steps do you need to take to become outward focused again?

We Invite

Read Luke 14:15-24

When we come to church, we are going to a banquet of God's presence, love, power, and life.

- Our job is to fill the room!
- We pray for God to move! We invite the movement

Are you creating an invitation through prayer? How are you inviting folks to experience God's presence? Are you welcoming God's presence?

3 Invitations

- Come alive
- Come awake
- Come home

Who do you need to be praying for?

Application to Developing a Salvation Prayer Altar

Steps to developing a Salvation Altar (reference page 169 of the book for more in-depth discussion around each step):

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans 10:13

1. Learn how to naturally present the Gospel.
2. Be sensitive to the Spirit’s leading.
3. Take time to invite people to receive Christ.
4. Invite those who receive Christ to begin praying.

Prayer Requests

Take prayer requests and pray for one another.

Next week’s reading: Chapters 9 & 10 (pages 139 – 153)