

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



These discussion questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. You can use them for your personal Bible study, family study, and/or small group study.

Overview

Sermon: *Live with Purpose.*

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession —to the praise of his glory. — Ephesians 1:13-14 (NIV)

Ephesians is a book full of worship and prayer. Worship and prayer are born out of one's identity in Christ and every spiritual blessing given to a believer in Christ through the Holy Spirit. Worship is not just a side product of God's abundant grace poured out for you. Worship is God's purpose for you. It is an assault on the reality of the world in which we live. For God's "real reality" of love is breaking in and pressing through in worship.

Worship not only allows us to proclaim that God is true but that He is real! All of this world and the world to come is God's. As Walter Wink says, "To worship is to remember who owns the house." You are God's possession for the praise of his glory.

Discussion

1. How would you describe worship? Tell the group about a time when you encountered God in a way that shaped your definition of reality.
2. Read Ephesians 1:11-14. Paul uses "we" language and then "you" language. Who is Paul talking about? How is this language inclusive and uniting? Why is it important that salvation and worship come forth from all peoples and generations?
3. Discuss this statement. Worship allows believers to proclaim that God is both true and real. Why is this important for the church? How is encountering God through His worshippers transformative for an unbeliever?
4. "For the praise of His glory." How is worship more than just a side product of God's grace? How else does the word of God describe worship?
5. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the life of a worshipper? How does the Holy Spirit provide security and confidence for your faith? How might this allow you to pour out your heart to God in praise?

Application

6. If you are in Christ you are God's possession. Meditate on what God has done for you; what has He given you; and how He has worked through you? Spend time praising Him.

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