

The Oaks Community Church  
Worship Guide



May 14, 2023

I. Worship, Praise, & Thanksgiving

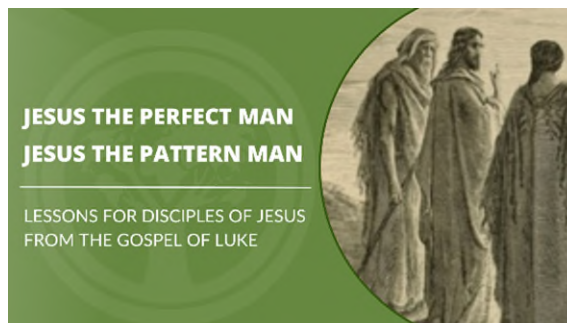
See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. I John 3:1 (NIV)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

**The Oaks Priority #6**

We are a relationship-based church. We emphasize relational connection through community groups and ministry teams.

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:4, 5 (NIV)



“The Present & Future Kingdom”

Luke 17:20-37

Pastor Gary Barber

Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or, ‘There it is!’ For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.” Luke 17:20, 21 (NASB)

“And He said to the disciples, “The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. They will say to you, ‘Look there! Look here!’ Do not go away, and do not run after them. For just like the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man be in His day. Luke 17:22-24 (NASB)

But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. Luke 17:25 (NASB)

And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

Luke 17:26-30 (NASB)

On that day, the one who is on the housetop and whose goods are in the house must not go down to take them out; and likewise the one who is in the field must not turn back. Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. Luke 17:31-33 (NASB)

I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken and the other will be left. [Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.”] Luke 17:34-36 (NASB)

- The Rapture – Greek: “Harpazo” – to be snatched away; to be caught up suddenly.

And answering they said to Him, “Where, Lord?” And He said to them, “Where the body is, there also the vultures will be gathered.” Luke 17:37 (NASB)

We are kingdom people. The kingdom of God is centered in the King – Jesus Christ. It is present now as the King manifests His reign and makes His invisible kingdom visible through His people. It will come in fullness at the King’s return in the future in His perfect rulership on a restored earth.

#### ❖ Applications for the Present & Future Kingdom

- Seek first God’s kingdom with confidence.

My little flock, don’t be afraid. God is your Father, and your Father’s great joy is to give you His kingdom. Luke 12:32 (The Voice)

- Welcome and share the present kingdom and its life-giving attributes

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 14:17 (NIV)

- Pray for and proclaim the kingdom

Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10 (NASB)

This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. Matthew 24:14 (NASB)

- Watch, pray, and prepare for the King's return

III. Prayer & Reflection

IV. Worshipping God through Our Offerings

### **Stewardship Principle #5**

Above God's tithe, we give compassion gifts  
to help the needy.

"When you give to the poor, don't let anyone know about it. Then your gift will be given in secret. Your Father knows what is done in secret, and He will reward you." Matthew 6:3, 4 (CEV)

### **3 Ways to Give:**

1. Online at [www.theoaksweb.com](http://www.theoaksweb.com) or download our app (The Oaks Bakersfield)
2. Mail Check/Drop Off Cash to: 10200 Campus Park Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93311
3. In person through the worship service offering or using the offering boxes

The Oaks Community Church  
10200 Campus Park Drive // Bakersfield, CA 93311  
661-663-3888 // [www.theoaksweb.com](http://www.theoaksweb.com) // Email: [tocc@theoaksweb.com](mailto:tocc@theoaksweb.com)

Text us to let us know that you are here today or with any prayer request that you have: 661-241-3408