

The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide



November 26, 2023

I. Worship, Praise, & Thanksgiving

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.
Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

Four Fold Gospel – Christ Our Coming King

We believe that the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is the glorious and certain hope of the Church. At a time known only to Father God, Jesus will return as the conquering king in a personal and visible way. He will take all who have received His forgiveness into His Kingdom.

There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.
John 14:2-3

GOD'S DESIGN FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

- III. How to live with money without loving It:
Finding my Identity in "The Secret Place"
Pastor Nick Preston

Matthew 6: 24: No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Psalm 139: 23-24: Search me, O God, and know my heart today; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (KJV)

Part One: Four Common Distractions about Wealth that are NOT in “The Secret Place”

1. “I want to be in control”

Luke 12: 18-20: Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

Ecclesiastes 5: 10: Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.

2. “My success is based on my bank account/portfolio size”

Matthew 20: 26-27: It must not be this way among you! Instead whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. (NET)

My Status among others

John 12: 43: For they loved human praise more than the praise of God.

3. “If I just have _____, then I’ll finally be happy”

Proverbs 11: 28: A life devoted to things is a dead life, a stump; a God-shaped life is a flourishing tree. (MSG)

Part Two: Five Keys for Entering the Secret Place

Philippians 4: 10-13: ¹⁰I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

1. We enter “The Secret Place” by practicing Generosity v.10

Philippians 4: 15-16: Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need.

2. We enter “The Secret Place” by practicing Thankfulness v.10

Lamentations 3: 22-24: Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.”

3. We enter “The Secret Place” by recognizing that Contentment is not found in Circumstances v.11

4. We enter “The Secret Place” by knowing that our Worth is in Jesus, not in Worldly Wealth. v.12

1 Peter 1: 3-4: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

5. We enter “The Secret Place” by practicing “The Enough Principle” v.13

Part Three: A Step towards “The Secret Place”

❖ **Which Step do I need to take?**

IV. Worshipping God through Our Offerings

Stewardship Principle #2

We are managers not owners of the resources
God entrusts to us.

So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?
Luke 16:11, 12 (NIV)

3 Ways to Give:

1. Online at 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

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