Let's Talk About Jesus

September 6, 2020 Pastor Brenda Thomas

Scripture References

Psalm 46:10 (MSG) 1 John 4:19 (NKJV) Psalm 34:1-3 (NKJV) Psalm 34:3 (NLT) Psalm 145:1-7 (NLT) Psalm 107:1-2,8,15,21,31 (KJV) Psalm 31:19 (NLT) Colossians 3:2 (MSG) Psalm 3:3 (KJV)

- A. Introduction
 - There is a great deal of bad news out in the world, and if that's all we're watching or listening to we can easily become paralyzed by discouragement, depression or fear. But we are not like those who have no hope. We can look to Jesus - He is the way, the truth and the life. Corrie ten Boom once said, "If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. But if you look at Christ, you'll be at rest."
 - 2. "Step out of the traffic! Take a long, loving look at me, your High God, above politics, above everything." (Psalm 46:10 MSG)
- B. Praising Him Through The Psalms
 - 1. It's good to remind ourselves of God's great love for us. We love Him because He first loved us. (1 John 4:19 NKJV)
 - 2. Reading scriptures, especially in the book of Psalms, is one of the best ways to praise and magnify Him.
 - 3. "I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together." (Psalm 34:1-3 NKJV)
 - a. Magnify means to make greater in size, status and importance; to enlarge, exalt, raise on high, elevate and lift up.
 - b. The Lord never changes. He has always been and will ever be the Most High God. But the Bible instructs us to magnify Him.
 - c. As we lift Him up, He becomes greater in our eyes, heart and thinking. Our perspective of Him can increase and be enlarged.
 - d. "Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness; let us exalt his name together." (Psalm 34:3 NLT)
 - e. Our God is bigger and greater than anything and He wants us to look to Him for all that we need. Do you need peace or joy? Do you need a sense of safety and security? Look to Him. He will never fail us.
 - f. To bless means to praise and glorify.
 - g. "I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever. I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness. Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power. I will

meditate on your majestic, glorious splendor and your wonderful miracles. Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue; I will proclaim your greatness. Everyone will share the story of your wonderful goodness; they will sing with joy about your righteousness." (Psalm 145:1-7 NLT)

- 1. Some synonyms of awe are admiration, amazement, wonder and astonishment.
- 2. Vs. 7 We all have a story to share with others that will bring glory to God.
- h. "Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy," (Psalm 107:1-2,8,15,21,31)
 - 1. We are to *say* that we are redeemed. We are redeemed from sickness, COVID-19, spiritual death, fear, anxiety, the weapons and lies of the enemy.
 - 2. When we are thankful, it opens up the flood gates of God's blessing in our lives.
- i. "How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world." (Psalm 31:19 NLT)
 - 1. God's goodness in our lives is a testimony, and for some, it is the only Bible they will ever read.
 - 2. Lavish means bestowing profusely, produced in abundance and marked by excessiveness.
- C. What Have You Been Magnifying?
 - 1. "Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective." (Colossians 3:2 MSG)
 - a. Don't be absorbed with the problem but look up for He is the glory and the lifter of your head. (Psalm 3:3)
 - 2. The more we talk about Jesus and talk to Jesus, the more real He becomes to us.

All scripture references are in the King James Version (KJV) unless indicated.

MSG: The Message NKJV: New King James NLT: New Living Translation