Worship God

Lesson for Sunday, October 2, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

* Recently, Pastor Monroe introduced what we are referring to as Vision LIII (53). Who can remember what it is?
  + Idea: See how close the class can get! Let them work on it, play hangman, etc.
  + *Our Vision: To build an army of Bible-Believing People, Mobilized and Committed to Jesus Christ.*
* To reach that vision the Preacher introduced a 4-part mission…who remembers? *Another game?*
  + *Worship God, Love Others, Witness Everywhere, Make Disciples*
* Over the next several weeks we will be looking at each of these four critical areas. If we are going to be part of the Lord’s army, these four aspects must be a part of our daily lives.
* This week: Worship God.
* This first component is so important, it is #1 on God’s Top Ten List (The 10 Commandments).

BIBLE STUDY: *Read* ***Exodus 20:1-3***

1. No other god before the One True God
   1. All the other commands are founded upon this one, that God is the One True God.
   2. Our choice of a god to worship affects all that we think, say, and do. It determines how and why we worship (corporately and privately), how we respond to daily life and make our choices, and how we develop or maintain all relationships with family, friends, and others.
   3. To have God as our One True God to worship above all others means that He is supreme in our heart (will), mind (thoughts), and soul (spiritual).
   4. True fulfillment of this command includes our:
      1. **Adoration** – We are passionate about our relationship with Him.
      2. **Affection** – Our love for God is a reality that is demonstrated in our daily lives.
      3. **Attention** – We focus on what He has to say to us through His Word in personal devotions and public lessons/sermons.
      4. **Allegiance** – God has our loyalty not only on Sunday, but on every day of the week.
      5. **Alliances** – We do not align ourselves with those who oppose God or His Word.
   5. God alone has all we need and since nothing can even compare to Him or His ways, nothing should be allowed to compete with Him for our adoration, attention, affection, or allegiance.
2. The Background of this Command
   1. When the Jews were slaves in Egypt they were exposed to Egyptian worship. Religion in ancient Egypt involved the worship of many gods.
   2. Many theologians speculate that each of the plagues that God sent on Egypt were a direct refutation of the gods they worshipped. For example:
      1. **Hapi** – god of the Nile (confronted/defeated by turning water into blood)
      2. **Hekhet** - god of Frogs (confronted/defeated by multiplying frogs on the land)
      3. **Pharoah** – ultimate god in Egypt (confronted/defeated by killing first born son)
   3. Discussion Questions: How do you think the Egyptians “worshipped” these gods?
      1. What would they do if their crops failed one year or when the Nile flooded?
      2. When God brought the Israelites out of Egypt why did He establish this commandment with them?  
         [The tendency to doubt, fail to trust in Him, and worship other gods was still present]
      3. Is that attitude still present with us today? In what ways?
3. The Summary & Application of Worshipping God
   1. How would you summarize this command?
      1. Allow for discussion…
      2. Keep it simple: God desires to be worshipped!
   2. How would you apply it? Discuss the following:
      1. What do you allow to interfere with your relationship with God and to interrupt your time with Him?
      2. In what ways are you seeking instruction from His Word?
      3. What do you do with God throughout the remainder of your week?
      4. How much time is spent with those who do not love the Lord?
   3. The answers to some of these questions may reveal areas where you have a substitute god that you desire more than the One True God of the Bible. How should we properly respond to God?
      1. Surrender:
         1. To His Son: Jesus Christ as your Savior of Whom you are in need
         2. To His Word daily in order to know His guideline for your life
         3. To His Spirit in order to control the way you live your life
      2. Speak:
         1. To God through prayer by giving thanks, praising Him, seeking the needs of others, and your personal needs
         2. To others by inviting them to church, class, activities OR by witnessing to them about what Jesus has done in your life
      3. Service:
         1. Serve around you by seeking out their needs and meeting them in Jesus’s name
         2. Serve the local church by using your spiritual gifts
         3. Does God want you to serve the Lord in full-time Christian service (teacher, pastor, biblical counselor, missionary, etc.)?

Give something like this for you class members to take home and work on as they seek to worship God more faithfully:

Are you seeking to know God and worship Him in these three areas? Which area is your weakest? What will you do this week to change that area of your life?

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