

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, January 21, 2018)

Share:

As for me, my heart waits on God.

I know that my salvation comes from the Lord.

I may change my views about many things; but, as for my need for God and God’s love, that is one conviction which shall never change.

The Lord is my Hope and my Help.

Read these words from a hymn today: *The Summons*

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;

Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I’ll go, where your love and footsteps show.

Thus, I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Read this scripture from worship:

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (*The Message*)

1-2 Next, God spoke to Jonah a second time: “Up on your feet and on your way to the big city of Nineveh! Preach to them. They’re in a bad way and I can’t ignore it any longer.”

3This time Jonah started off straight for Nineveh, obeying God’s orders to the letter. Nineveh was a big city, very big—it took three days to walk across it.

4Jonah entered the city, went one day’s walk and preached, “In forty days Nineveh will be smashed.”

5The people of Nineveh listened, and trusted God. They proclaimed a citywide fast and dressed in burlap to show their repentance. Everyone did it—rich and poor, famous and obscure, leaders and followers.

10God saw what they had done, that they had turned away from their evil lives. He did change his mind about them. What he said he would do to them he didn’t do.

Mark 1:14-20 (*The Message*)

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee preaching the Message of God: "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Message."

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Passing along the beach of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew net-fishing. Fishing was their regular work. Jesus said to them, "Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass." They didn't ask questions. They dropped their nets and followed.

¹⁹⁻²⁰ A dozen yards or so down the beach, he saw the brothers James and John, Zebedee's sons. They were in the boat, mending their fishnets. Right off, he made the same offer. Immediately, they left their father Zebedee, the boat, and the hired hands, and followed.

Talk together, responding to these questions:

What kind of excuses do we give when someone asks us to do something? When God asks us to do something?

When have you heard God's call to a task you would have preferred not to undertake? What happened? What did you learn about God?

When has God given you a second chance to do something?

When have you heard Jesus call you to follow? How did you respond?

Pray together:

Loving God, no matter what I am facing today – sadness or gladness, serenity or unsettledness, activity or inactivity, your clear call or a still, small voice – help me to focus on you throughout it all. Remind me of my second chances with you. Then, bring me home safely to you. Through Jesus who summons me and gifts me with grace. Amen.

Bless one another:

Take each person's hand and say. "God's grace is for you, God's love is upon you, God's call is within you. Be kind to yourself and others this week as a child of God."

Resources Used: *Glory to God*, The Presbyterian Hymnal
Feasting on the Word, Year A, A Worship Companion