

## “TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, May 27, 2018)

### Share:

Blessed be God, Eternal Majesty, Living Word, Abiding Spirit, the Ancient of Days. Jesus said the way to see God’s dream for the world is to be born from above by the Spirit. The way to take part in that dream, says Jesus, is to be born of water and Spirit. That gift is available this day. May we receive God’s Spirit, be made whole, and dwell more deeply in love divine.  
Glory to God, forever and ever. Amen.

### Read these words from a hymn today:

*O worship the King, all glorious above! O gratefully sing, God’s power and God’s love:  
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with  
praise.*

*Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;  
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and  
Friend.*

### Read this scripture from worship: Romans 8:5-17 (The Message)

<sup>5-8</sup> Those who think they can do it on their own end up obsessed with measuring their own moral muscle but never get around to exercising it in real life. Those who trust God’s action in them find that God’s Spirit is in them—living and breathing God! Obsession with self in these matters is a dead end; attention to God leads us out into the open, into a spacious, free life. Focusing on the self is the opposite of focusing on God. Anyone completely absorbed in self ignores God, ends up thinking more about self than God. That person ignores who God is and what he is doing. And God isn’t pleased at being ignored.

<sup>9-11</sup> But if God himself has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won’t know what we’re talking about. But for you who welcome him, in whom he dwells—even though you still experience all the limitations of sin—you yourself experience life on God’s terms. It stands to reason, doesn’t it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he’ll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ’s!

<sup>12-14</sup> So don’t you see that we don’t owe this old do-it-yourself life one red cent. There’s nothing in it for us, nothing at all. The best thing to do is give it a decent burial and get on with your new life. God’s Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go!

<sup>15-17</sup> This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It’s adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike “What’s next, Papa?” God’s Spirit

touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who he is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with him!

Talk together, responding to these questions:

How do I try to “make it on our own?”

What difference does depending on God each day make in my life?

When do I expectantly say to God, “What’s next, Papa?”

What do I wonder about regarding my inheritance in Christ?

How do we worship, serve, and go out in the name, for the sake, and through the power of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Pray together:

Life-giving God, I give thanks for the immeasurable gifts of this day, above all for the gift of your love and grace. Awaken me to your threefold presence in the world this day that I may share your love with others as freely as you have done for us in Christ. How grateful I am counted as a precious member of your family. Mere words cannot convey the wonder of this love. 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