

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, October 14, 2018)

Share:

God, you are holy, enthroned on the praises of your people.
In your our ancestors trusted; they trusted you, and you delivered them.
To you they cried, and they were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
God, you are holy. All praise to you, now and forever!

Read these words from a hymn today:

O Jesus, I Have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my Guide.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory there shall Thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end—
Oh, give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

Read this scripture from worship: Mark 10:17-31 (The Message)

¹⁷ As he went out into the street, a man came running up, greeted him with great reverence, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to get eternal life?”

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ Jesus said, “Why are you calling me good? No one is good, only God. You know the commandments: Don’t murder, don’t commit adultery, don’t steal, don’t lie, don’t cheat, honor your father and mother.”

²⁰ He said, “Teacher, I have—from my youth—kept them all!”

²¹ Jesus looked him hard in the eye—and loved him! He said, “There’s one thing left: Go sell whatever you own and give it to the poor. All your wealth will then be heavenly wealth. And come follow me.”

²² The man’s face clouded over. This was the last thing he expected to hear, and he walked off with a heavy heart. He was holding on tight to a lot of things, and not about to let go.

²³⁻²⁵ Looking at his disciples, Jesus said, “Do you have any idea how difficult it is for people who ‘have it all’ to enter God’s kingdom?” The disciples couldn’t believe what they were hearing, but Jesus kept on: “You can’t imagine how difficult. I’d say it’s easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for the rich to get into God’s kingdom.”

²⁶ *That* set the disciples back on their heels. “Then who has any chance at all?” they asked.

²⁷ Jesus was blunt: “No chance at all if you think you can pull it off by yourself. Every chance in the world if you let God do it.”

²⁸ Peter tried another angle: “We left everything and followed you.”

²⁹⁻³¹ Jesus said, “Mark my words, no one who sacrifices house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, land—whatever—because of me and the Message will lose out. They’ll get it all back, but multiplied many times in homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land—but also in troubles. And then the bonus of eternal life! This is once again the Great Reversal: Many who are first will end up last, and the last first.”

Talk together, responding to these questions:

What does it mean to me to be a disciple of Jesus?

How hard is it surrender all to God?

What have you left behind to follow Jesus?

What do you feel is the joy of discipleship?

What do you think is the cost of discipleship?

Pray together:

As I open my eyes to a new day, I want to feel your Word, living and active and guiding my way. I want to live knowing that what is impossible for me is possible for you. I want to live with the certainty that those who are first will be last, and the last will be first. Give me the courage and the hope to live with your words in my mind through this day and into this new week. In Jesus Christ, my teacher, I pray. 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."