

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, July 5, 2020)

Share:

Come to me, Jesus says. All who are weary, come to me.

And you, who carry heavy loads, come to me. For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Let us draw near to Jesus, whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light.

Read these words from a hymn today:

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest,
Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank, of that lifegiving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light,
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found, in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk till traveling days are done.*

Read this scripture from worship:

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30, *The Message*

¹⁶⁻¹⁹ “How can I account for this generation? The people have been like spoiled children whining to their parents, ‘We wanted to skip rope, and you were always too tired; we wanted to talk, but you were always too busy.’ John came fasting and they called him crazy. I came feasting and they called me a lush, a friend of the riffraff. Opinion polls don’t count for much, do they? The proof of the pudding is in the eating.”

²⁵⁻²⁶ Abruptly Jesus broke into prayer: “Thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You’ve concealed your ways from sophisticates and know-it-alls, but spelled them out clearly to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that’s the way you like to work.”

²⁷ Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. “The Father has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique Father-Son operation, coming out of Father and Son intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way the Father does, nor the Father the way the Son does. But I’m not keeping it to myself; I’m ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen. ²⁸⁻³⁰ “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Talk together, responding to these questions:

- In the scripture for today (and in what occurs before), how are people reacting to Jesus?
- What do you think the disciples were experiencing and feeling as they followed Jesus?
- What do you know about a yoke? What do we learn from the yoke?
- What misplaced burdens are you carrying?
- How does Jesus' call end our weariness or lift our burden?
- Where might God be offering you a more well-fitted yoke?
- Where do you sense God moving in hidden ways?
- How have you experienced God's steadfast love?

Pray together:

As the darkness recedes, open my eyes to the gift of this day; help me to trust you with all that it will hold. In the hours to come, as my plans are interrupted, tune my ear to the sound of your voice, my eye to the movement of your Spirit, my heart to the strength of your desire, that I might glimpse your hidden graces and be strengthened in your service, for I would be your instrument. You call me to lay down my burdens and find rest in relationship with you. Help me to learn from you how to be gentle and humble of heart, that our burdens may be light. Through Christ our Savior. 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: *Disciplines, A Book of Daily Devotions*
Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion
Glory to God, The Presbyterian Hymnal
The Message, by Rev. Eugene Peterson