

“Just Doing Our Duty”

We live in a society that celebrates achievement, applause, and recognition. Value is based on how much power you have, how much you own, or how well-liked you are. To have value, one must be successful to be considered worthy. Isn't it a rat race! But when we turn to Jesus, life changes, our goals change, our values change. Jesus offers us a radically different kind of life. A life not based on what other people think. Instead, it is living a life of humility through obedience to God. In Luke 17.10, Jesus said, "So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants, we have only done what was our duty,'" It is not a call to self-loathing—it is a call to spiritual clarity.

Jesus speaks these words after describing a servant, who, after working all day in the field, comes in and prepares his master's meal without expecting thanks. Do we expect to be thanked for everything we do for others? If they don't, we feel like they didn't appreciate our efforts and determine that we will never do anything for them again. Is that what Jesus is teaching? No! Jesus is revealing the heart posture of true discipleship. When we serve our Lord, we are not employees negotiating wages. We are beloved servants responding to God's grace. Our obedience is a direct response of appreciation for what God has done for us. We do not expect to receive great honor and recognition just for doing what God expects us to do. The verse is inviting us to ask: "Do I serve to be seen, or do I serve because I've been saved?"

There is a subtle temptation in our spiritual lives to believe that our faithfulness earns us favor, recognition, and appreciation. We may not say it aloud, but we feel it when we are overlooked. Luke 17.10 dismantles that mindset. It reminds us that even when we've "done everything," our salvation is still because of God's grace, not

because we have earned it. This passage is not meant to discourage us; it is meant to set us free. When we release the need for applause and recognition, we find joy in simply being part of God's work.

There is something sacred about being unseen. The quiet prayers. The unnoticed acts of kindness. Faithful worship and serving week after week. These are not wasted; they are woven into the foundation of being a part of God's kingdom. Can we learn that our value is not in visibility but in faithfulness? We are "unworthy servants"—not worthless, but unentitled. And that distinction frees us to serve with joy! Are you happy just doing your duty?



Gary

Do You Really Want To Go To Heaven?

John 14.1-3

- 1) Do you really want to go to heaven?
- 2) Are you aware that the Scriptures teach that the majority of people will not go there (Matthew 7.13, 14)?
- 3) It certainly is not because God does not want them to be saved.

If I Really Want To Go To Heaven, Then...

I) For Heaven, I Must _____.

- A) It means "to desire, to long persistently for something or someone."
 - 1) _____ dwells there (Ecclesiastes 5.2; Matthew 5.44, 45; Matthew 6.9).
 - 2) _____ dwells there (Mark 16.19; Colossians 3.1).
 - 3) Jesus promised to _____ to take _____ there (John 14.1-3).
- B) Why will many _____ heaven?
 - 1) _____ blinds the minds of them that do not believe (2 Corinthians 4.4).
 - 2) What strategy does he use (James 1.14, 15)?

II) Of Heaven, I Must _____.

- A) It means "to gain knowledge or understanding."
 - 1) Paul wrote to Timothy that God "**desires that all people be saved and to come to the _____ of the _____**" (I Timothy 4.2).
 - 2) One is saved by the _____ of God (Titus 2.11, 12).
 - 3) Then why will everyone not enter heaven who tries (Matthew 7.21-23)?
- B) What must I be willing to learn?
 - 1) I can only go to heaven through _____ (John 14.6).
 - 2) To do so, Jesus said... (Matthew 11.28-30).
 - 3) Are you open to learning (Acts 8)?

III) Toward Heaven, I Must _____.

- A) It means "to change course or direction."
 - 1) The Bible word describing that action is _____.
 - 2) We want to go to heaven; what is heaven's desire for us (2 Peter 3.9; Acts 17.30)?
 - 3) James specifies the "turning about" that is required of one walking in the heavenly way is to receive the _____ (James 1.21).
 - 4) To go to heaven takes more than _____, it takes _____.
- B) Are you willing to turn as those who were assembled on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2)?
 - 1) They had a desire to go to heaven and were willing to learn, but without _____ their lives to _____ to what they had learned, they would not reach heaven.
 - 2) As a result of their turning, "**The _____ added to their number day by day those who were being saved**" (Acts 2.47).

Conclusion: Are you willing to turn to God to go to heaven?

C O N N E C T I O N

C Good morning WH! We are glad to be back with the family today! Deatra and I went to Kentucky to visit the Ark exhibit and the Creation Museum. I'll have much to share with you about that in coming weeks.

R
N Today, I wanted to carry on our discussion about the fruit of the Spirit – JOY. As we have been looking at the fruit of the Spirit being our "Living Proof" of our relationship with Jesus, I have come to realize that all these fruits are about relationships—our relationship with Jesus, our relationships with each other and our relationships with those outside of Christ. How well we connect in these relationships will be affected by how well the fruit of Spirit flourishes within us.
E
R

I don't take credit for creating this idea, but I think it is valid. We all may be in a different place in the "joy cycle." There are those that are outside of Christ, who have never received the "joy of the Lord and His strength." (Neh. 8.10) There are those who have put on Christ and are fully immersed in His joy, staying in His presence, reading His word, talking to Him in worship and prayer. (Acts 8.39) As we continue to draw closer to Jesus, we will find that we can't always stay in that part of the cycle, because once we partake of His joy and His strength, He calls us to a journey— "Take up your cross and follow me." (Luke 9.23) And that journey may take us to places and through situations that we did not choose and, probably would never have chosen, but in doing so helps expose our "junk" -- the things in our lives that we have chosen to make us "happy." The things that the deceiver convinced us we just "had" to have to be "happy." Our job, a relationship, our possessions, etc., and once we have them, he convinces us that they are not good enough, there is something newer, different, better that we think we need and then we will be happy.

Once the Spirit takes us through the journey and exposes and enables us to get rid of all the junk, we find ourselves back in the midst of joy! → Joy → Jesus → Journey → Junk → Joy
→ Jesus → Journey → Junk . . . and the cycle repeats again. And as we become more and more mature in Christ and produce more fruit of the Spirit, we make new and deeper connections with Jesus and each other, and those outside of Christ can see what they are missing, what they will never find out side of Christ – true, everlasting joy!

Just think of the ways that are there for us to find connection. Seeking others that have found the joy of the Lord and rejoicing together. Joining others that are trying to deepen their relationship to Jesus and encouraging one another. Sharing with others who are amid a journey with Jesus just like you! Getting ideas from other brothers and sisters, about getting rid of the junk in our lives that the Spirit has brought to light. What a way to enjoy "In-joy" our Christian lives together.

Decide to hop on the Joy-Cycle – You'll be blessed!

--Les Keele



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*Shepherd of the month	

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Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Robert Scott
Song Leader - Russ Jones
Song - We Shall Assemble
Song - You're The One
Song - Ancient Words
Opening Prayer - Jonny Bartee
Scripture - John 14:1-3
Song - In Christ Alone
Lord's Supper - James Bowie
Prayer for Contribution - James Bowie
Song - A Mansion, Robe, And Crown
Do You Really Want To Go To Heaven? - Gary Williams
Song - Create In Me A Clean Heart
Announcements - Les Keele
Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Dan Kille

Our Code for Tithe.ly
Giving



QR Code for
Attendance



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, October 13 Jeremiah 41-43; Hebrews 13	Friday, October 17 Jeremiah 52; Psalm 74; Lamentations 1
Tuesday, October 14 Jeremiah 44-45; Psalm 13; Jeremiah 46-47	Saturday, October 18 Lamentations 2; Psalm 77
Wednesday, October 15 Psalm 123; Jeremiah 48-49	Sunday, October 19 Lamentations 3; Psalm 140
Thursday, October 16 Jeremiah 50-51; Psalm 137	

Last Week				Times of Assemblies	
Bible Class	127	Wednesday	103	Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Worship	213	Contribution	\$ 11,703.34	Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
PM Worship	68	Budget	\$ 14,216.88	Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
				Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

TRUNK OR TREAT

JOIN US FOR FUN AND TREATS, LAUGHS AND SMILES, WHILE MAKING
MEMORIES.



**OCTOBER 31ST, FROM 6:30-8 PM.
8800 CHAPIN ROAD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116**