

God's Generosity

Our Breakthrough

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
Services from December 1&2 2018

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Ice Breaker

- Discuss your favorite Christmas tradition? Did you come to Polar Express? What was a highlight?

I. God is involved

Galatians 4:4-7 (NIV®)

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, [5] to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. [6] Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." [7] So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

1. Why do you suppose the angels were rejoicing & praising God when they announced Jesus birth?
2. What were the circumstances of Jesus birth? Was he welcomed or ignored by most? What was/is His main mission?

Lesson: **WE SHOULD REJOICE WHEN GOD'S PURPOSES ARE BEING WORKED OUT ---**

Luke 2:13-14 (NIV®)

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, [14] "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Luke 6:22-23 (NIV®)

Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. [23] "**Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.**"

3. What is the point of rejoicing in both scriptures? Why are we to rejoice when persecuted or falsely accused or are insulted for Christ's sake?

1 Peter 5:6-11 (NIV®)

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. [7] Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. [8] Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. [9] Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. [10] And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. [11] To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

4. What were some of Peter's experiences that qualified him to make the above statements? What are the directives given and the outcomes? Why is suffering part of being a legitimate child of God?

A. Jesus unique position

Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV®)

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him **the name that is above every name**, [10] that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

5. Why was Jesus given the name above every name and for whose glory? He is the ultimate judge, ultimate authority, therefore Jesus --- King of Kings & Lord of Lords.

B. A Mission

Luke 19:9-10 (NIV®)

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. [10] For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

6. Jesus spends time with the most notorious sinners in the community. What was the assignment? Do we have the same mission? How are we doing with this assignment in our community?

C. Plan for Perpetuation - Jesus gained the necessary authority & then commission His followers!

Matthew 16:18-19 (NIV®)

. . . I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. [19] I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

7. What is Jesus promise in Matthew 16? What has He entrusted us with?

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV®)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

8. Why does He say "Therefore you go"? What are we to do and to what point will He be with us?

The Church = all Christ Followers!

Romans 12:5

In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

9. What church denomination are you from or did you attend church growing up?

NOT ALL CHURCHES ARE THE SAME

There are many expressions of obedience to Christ reflected in the Church throughout the world.

10. What binds us together? What should we embrace and what should we guard against?
11. How do we help people around us to become more fully devoted believers in Jesus?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you giving so freely to us. Your generosity has defined our lives. Lord Jesus, thank you for your great faithfulness towards us. You have opened the Kingdom to us, our desire is serve you with joy. Holy Spirit direct our steps that we may be rich towards God. Open our hearts to truth that we may flourish and fulfill Your purpose for this generation, in Jesus' name, amen.

