
Restoration

Great and Small

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
From Services of May 11th and 12th

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Ice Breaker

- Have you ever restored a home, furniture or car? Besides the finish what was your favorite part of the process?

I. The Restoration of Israel

Joel 2:24-27 (NIV[®])

²⁴ The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

²⁵ **'I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten--** the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm-- my great army that I sent among you. ²⁶ You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. ²⁷ Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

1. In our life time this promise from God to Israel has been fulfilled. What are the promises? What is the reason stated for this fulfillment?
2. The Israeli people make a sacrifice to live in the land God promised due to the hostile position on the globe and size of their country. What do we have to sacrifice to live a life that honors God?

Isaiah 45:16-18 (NIV[®])

¹⁶ All the makers of idols will be put to shame and disgraced; they will go off into disgrace together.

¹⁷ But **Israel will be saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation;** you will never be put to shame or disgraced, to ages everlasting. ¹⁸ For this is what the LORD says-- he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited-- he says: "I am the LORD, and there is no other.

3. God understands the frailty of humanity and His restoration isn't based on our perfection but our willingness to cooperate with Him. Where would you like to cooperate with the Lord more fully?

Psalms 122:6-7 (NIV[®])

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

⁷ May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels."

4. There is no logical reason for the hatred the world's has for Israel and the Jewish people, it is spiritual. Without the Jewish people we would have no story, faith, scripture, prophets, or Messiah. We have a debt to them. Can you commit to praying the below prayer this week? Who can you include?

Prayer

Almighty God we pray today for the peace of Jerusalem. May there be peace within her walls and security for all the people of the Land. May the inhabitants of Jerusalem have hearts open to the Messiah, may those who live in the Land say "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Awaken your people throughout the earth to stand together in proclaiming Jesus as Lord. Holy Spirit lead us in paths of righteousness and protect us from those who intend harm. Our God is a strong tower and our shelter in every storm, in Jesus' name, amen.

II. Purifying the Church

We just finished reading Leviticus. In this book it is obvious that serving & worshipping the Lord are not sloppy or whimsical endeavors.

5. Do you believe God is the same today, yesterday and forever? What has He called you to pick up or lay down that has surprised you about His attention to detail in your life?
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A Psalm with a promise included, perfect for Mother's Day

Psalm 126:1-6 (NIV®)

- ¹ When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed.
² Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.
⁴ Restore **our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negev.**
⁵ Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy.
⁶ He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.
6. What is the message God has for us in the above scripture? The dreams we carry do not go unnoticed. What harvest are you believing for?

Ephesians 5:25-27 (NIV®)

- ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and **to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.**
7. What is God's objective for the church? This takes the power of God...He is watching over us.

A. Opposition

John 10:10 (NIV®)

- ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
8. If you could ask for restoration of one area of your life what would it be?

B. Almighty God

Psalm 90:14-17 (NIV®)

- ¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. ¹⁵ Make **us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.** ¹⁶ May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. ¹⁷ May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us-- yes, establish the work of our hands.
9. Every day brings the opportunity for contentment. What are the prayer points in this Psalm?

1 Peter 5:10-11 (NIV®)

- 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.
10. Challenges don't define us but gives us the opportunity to overcome. What does He do in us through suffering?

C. I Will Not Stop

Galatians 6:9 (NIV®)

- ⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
11. What good thing are you pushing into that has caused weariness? Take a minute to give thanks.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, you have called us out of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of Light. Nothing is too hard for you, no enemy causes you to tremble and no threat diminishes your courage. We rejoice in your great strength. You are well able to deliver us from every threat, our trust in you. Cleanse us and open our hearts to your great love. Restore what has been taken, establish us in your strength and grant us the strength to complete the course which you have marked out for us, in Jesus name, amen.
