



Small Group MEMBER Sermon Guide

May 13 & 14, 2017, Pastor Jamie Rasmussen

Glory | John 13:31-32

APPLICATION EXERCISE/PUTTING YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION

Before we begin this week's lesson:

Last week's Nudge report: Anything you did with last week's commitment around "Betrayal?" A person who betrayed you, or someone you betrayed and need to ask forgiveness of.

Pray for today's session

GETTING TO KNOW ME ("Glory" defined)

As Christians, we have a language of our own, ("Christian-ese"), which believers understand, but the culture we live in does not generally use the same words. (e.g. *amen, saved, sanctified, glory, etc.*)

- What are some other Christian-ese words you hear?
- How much Christian-ese would you say you use in your conversation & when do you use it?
- How do you think the world (i.e. non-believers) hears those same words?

INTO THE BIBLE: "Glory" is not a word we use often even in our Christian-ese.

- Before you heard Pastor Jamie's message, how would you have defined the word, *glory*?
- Having heard the message, how would you now define the word "glory"?

Three key areas where God's Glory is revealed:

1. Creation:

(NIV) Psalms 19:1-2 *The heavens are telling of the glory of God: And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech: night after night they display knowledge.*

- Name the ways you specifically see God's glory in creation.

2. Christ:

(NASB) John 1:14 *And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the father, full of grace and truth.*

- How is Christ "the glory of God?"
- Read also Heb. 1:1-3

3. Church:

(NASB) Eph. 3:21 *to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.*

- How does the world define “the Church?”
- How would you define, “The Church?” (*Hint: it’s not denominations or buildings*)
- How would you see God’s glory in the church?

MAIN POINT: God’s glory is not pain free; but it is God-infused.

- Where/ how do you see “pain” in any of the 3 areas above? (Creation, Christ, Church)

The last Supper was messy, but Jesus would make it, “A Beautiful Mess”

^{ESV} John 13:31-32 When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man *glorified*, and God is *glorified* in Him. 32 If God is *glorified* in Him, God will also *glorify* Him in Himself, and *glorify* Him at once.”

- What makes this scene at the last supper messy?
- In what ways was pain about to happen and to whom?
- How will God’s glory be infused (revealed) in this mess?

APPLICATION: Putting Your Faith into Action

God Infused Glory in My Pain, Or in My Mountain Top Experiences:

In a fallen world that is not our home, there are many times that we can see God’s glory in His blessings in our lives. Equally true are the times when His glory is seen in our painful times where He does his best work in our times of need.

- How can your responses in times of pain be a witness to the glory of God?

Three areas to Find God’s Glory in Difficult Times:

1. Worship: *Psalm 29:2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to his name: Worship the LORD in holy array.*

Give glory to God by choosing to worship Him in all circumstances

2. Word: *Matthew 4:4 But He answered (Satan) and said, “It is written, “man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”*

We give glory to God and find it in His Word.

3. Works: *Matthew 5:16 “Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your father who is in heaven.”*

We do good works in the name of Jesus and in so doing, give glory to God!

Take two minutes of silence. Listen to the Holy Spirit in you, and write down how you see God’s glory, either in good and positive times, or especially in times of pain and need.

Now pick just one item, (It’s your “nudge”) – Decide on one thing you would say is God’s greatest work of glory in your life, in positive, or painful times. Is there anything specifically you need to do?

Share your “nudge” with your group, and to God be the glory!

PRAYER: Encouragement do this week’s commitments (nudges), as well as any other needs of the group.