



To God Alone Be The Glory

Invite someone from the group to share their faith story. A helpful approach to sharing a testimony is to focus on life before Jesus, meeting Jesus, and life since coming to saving faith in Jesus. Then take some time to encourage and pray for that person. If time allows, share evidences of God's grace that you have observed this past week.

OPENING COMMENT

We live in the age of the selfie. Our natural bent is toward self-glorification. But we are compelled by Jesus and His Word to deflect and direct all glory to God.

What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

READ THE TEXT: John 7:14-31

¹⁴About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. ¹⁵The Jews therefore marvelled, saying, "How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?" ¹⁶So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. ¹⁷If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. ¹⁸The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood... *continue*

I. A STUDY OF 'GLORY'

1. Holiness refers to God's incomparable, intrinsic, infinite worth. He is so set apart and so far above all other things in greatness, value, and perfection. The glory of God is the manifestation of His holiness. When you catch a glimpse of the holiness of God in some way, shape, or form, it's God's glory on display.



2. Ask individuals in the group to look up the following passages and then read and discuss them briefly one at a time: Isaiah 43:7; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Psalm 19:1; Psalm 29:2; Romans 11:33-36.

II. LIVING UNTO THE GLORY OF GOD

1. Disciples of Jesus desire to be more like Jesus and grow more and more into Christlikeness (2 Cor 3:18) and Jesus lived unto the glory of God. Read: John 5:30; 8:50; and 12:49. Discuss what His example means for us in our lives.
2. Charles Spurgeon said, *"The moment we glorify ourselves, since there is room for one glory only in the universe, we set ourselves up as rivals to the Most High."* In what ways does your life not deflect and direct glory to God? Where do the temptations lie for you to glorify self and compete with God for the glory that He alone deserves?
3. We often think about the *big* things in our lives bringing glory to God (which they should). But how can God be glorified in the things we consider *menial* in our lives (such as milking a cow, putting dinner on the table, etc.)?
4. According to Romans 15:5-7, how are we to function in the church and to what end?

CONCLUSION

We have no greater objective and purpose in life than to live lives fixated on glorifying God. And the end result is greater satisfaction, pleasure, and joy in life than any other ends could offer. We were made to glorify God and nothing fits like living for our intended purpose.

SHARE & PRAY

- Psalm 22:23 says, You who fear the Lord, praise Him! ...glorify him, and stand in awe of him... Spend some time glorifying and standing in awe of our God.
- Pray for God to be glorified in every area of your lives.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, the growth in grace you want to experience, and the needs among you.

