

Life Changing Community Group Discussion Questions

week of 5/3/26

Summary

This sermon explored the fundamental purpose of human existence through an interactive worship experience. Pastor Mark led the congregation in singing hymns of praise to demonstrate that declaring God's praises is what we were created to do. Drawing from 1 Peter 2:9, he emphasized that Christians are called to be a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices and declaring the praises of God who called us out of darkness into His wonderful light. The message was reinforced through three converging elements: the biblical text, a conversation with a former student who rediscovered his life's purpose in glorifying God through ordinary work, and a final message to graduating students. Pastor Mark challenged the congregation to live every aspect of their lives - work, marriage, parenting, daily activities - with the intentional purpose of bringing honor and praise to God.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to be receptive to Your Spirit's leading and to understand more deeply what it means to live for Your glory. May we not just hear Your Word, but experience it in a way that transforms how we see our purpose and calling. Prepare our hearts to receive what You have for us, and help us to be honest and open with one another as we discuss Your truth. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one simple thing you do regularly that brings you joy or makes you feel most like yourself?

Key Verses

- 1 Peter 2:9
- Colossians 3:17
- 1 Peter 2:5

Questions

1. How did the singing exercise at the beginning of the sermon make you feel, and why do you think it had that effect?
2. Pastor Mark mentioned that what we did in worship felt 'right' and 'holy.' What do you think makes certain activities feel inherently right or good?
3. According to 1 Peter 2:9, we are called to 'declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.' What does this look like in practical, everyday terms?
4. The sermon shared a story about a businessman who realized he could serve God through his regular work. How might this perspective change the way you approach your job, studies, or daily responsibilities?
5. Jesus spent 90.9% of his life just 'doing life' before his public ministry. How does this encourage you about the value of ordinary, everyday activities?

6. What are some specific ways you could 'declare God's praises' through your work, relationships, or daily routines without necessarily changing what you do?
7. Pastor Mark suggested starting each day with the prayer: 'Everything I do today, Lord, let it bring praise to you.' How might this simple practice transform your daily experience?
8. What obstacles or challenges make it difficult to remember that our primary purpose is to glorify God in everything we do?

Life Application

This week, choose one specific area of your life (work, family relationships, daily routines, etc.) and intentionally approach it with the mindset of bringing glory to God. Each morning, pray: 'Lord, whatever I do today, let it bring praise to you.' At the end of each day, reflect on how this perspective influenced your actions, attitudes, and interactions.

Key Takeaways

- Our primary purpose as Christians is to be a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices and declaring God's praises
- Worship and praise feel 'right' because they align us with what we were created to do
- We can serve God and bring Him glory through ordinary, everyday activities when done with the right heart and intention
- Jesus spent most of His life doing regular work, showing that all of life can be lived for God's glory

- Living with the conscious intention to glorify God in everything transforms the meaning and purpose of our daily activities

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for reminding us today that our lives have profound purpose and meaning when lived for Your glory. Help us to remember throughout this week that we are Your chosen people, called to declare Your praises in everything we do. Whether we're working, studying, caring for family, or simply going about our daily routines, may our hearts be focused on bringing honor to You. Give us the grace and strength to live as the holy priesthood You've called us to be. Transform our ordinary moments into acts of worship and praise. We commit ourselves anew to living for Your glory and enjoying You forever. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.