

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

More than Enough, God is Great, How Great Thou Art, I Will Sing, People Need the Lord

WELCOME

I Am a Disciple. What does this battle cry mean to you: "Every Member A Disciple"?

WORD

MATTHEW 22:36-40

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." ³⁸ "This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹ "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰ "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

BLESSED TO BLESS

Jesus summarized all the commandments of God in the Greatest Commandment: that we are to love the Lord as He first loved us and we should also love our neighbor as an overflow of God's blessings. These two are inseparable.

If you have a relationship with God through His Son, and a true follower of Jesus, then you have every spiritual blessing in Christ (Ephesians 1:3): forgiveness of sins, assurance of a place in heaven, the Holy Spirit, wisdom, spiritual gifts...

The essence of blessings is not the absence of problems but the presence of God. God is our greatest blessing of all.

If we are counting our blessings, we realize that our God is more than enough. When we truly experience the heart of God, our life overflows in abundance for every good deed (2 Corinthians 9:8).

The greatest good deed that we can do to others is to point them to Jesus and help them grow in a relationship with Him. This is Jesus' great commission to His disciples, given before He ascended to heaven (Matthew 28:18-20). Every member of the body of Christ should be a disciple.

PRAY

A Biblically sound and simple approach to make disciples is to Pray, Care, and Share. Pray for specific people in your life. What should we pray about?

- *Fragmentation of families*

- *Drugs, alcohol, other addictions (sex, porno...)*
- *Domestic abuse (verbal, physical, sexual)*
- *Gender confusion*
- *Materialism, debt, financial struggles*
- *Health problems*
- *Recurring patterns (anger, anxiety)*
- *Lack of direction and purpose*

We all know we need "change" in our life. We lobby and rally for 'change'. But the truth is we cannot manufacture 'change' out of our own power (Jeremiah 13:23); Jesus alone changes life.

WHY DO WE PRAY?

1. *The Practice of Jesus (Mark 1:35-36)* – Jesus modeled for us the practice of intentional praying. After a busy day, Jesus prayed very early in the morning, unhurried without distraction in a solitary place. He knew His priority in every given situation; He prayed habitually (Luke 5:15-16).
2. *The Promise of Jesus (John 14:13-14)* – Our motive for praying is not to get what we want but to glorify God. Praying in the name of Jesus is representing His interests and objectives back to God. The heart of God is for people to turn from their wicked ways and live for Him (Ezekiel 18:23).
3. *The Power of Jesus (Mark 5:1-20)* – Jesus is the only true "Transformer". No one is out of reach of the grace of God. The battle is spiritual, therefore only Jesus has the power to change lives. In the passage, it didn't surprise Him to meet the man at

WORD (cont'd)

Gerasene. It tells us that in going to the other side of the lake, Jesus is a seeker. We are spiritually bankrupt that we cannot manufacture the desire to seek God. Jesus had to seek us first (John 6:44).

"...before a man can seek God, God must first have sought the man." – A.W. Tozer

Anyone who does not have Jesus is spiritually dead; he is shameless and unable to change himself without Jesus; he does crazy things and inflicts pain in himself and others (Ephesians 2:1-2).

Upon seeing Jesus, this man who had been bound with chains and evil powers, bowed down to Jesus crying out with a loud voice. This reminds us that whatever is dragging you down or holding you back

someday, every knee will bow down to Jesus. This man by the power of Jesus was delivered from his bondage, made clean, and had changed into his right mind (v.15). He is totally a new man, the old has gone (2 Corinthians 5:17). Indeed there is no problem, no bondage, no past nor present, no habit that is more powerful than Jesus.

The devil comes only to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus came to give us an abundant life of purpose and blessings (John 10:10). If you want to have life, do not delay, choose Jesus today. He will give you a new heart and a new Spirit (Ezekiel 36:26-27). And then go and tell your family and others the marvelous things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you (Mark 5:19-20).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- 1. Greatest Commandment.** What is the greatest commandment of God according to Matthew 22:36-40? How do you relate this to the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20?
- 2. Powerlessness.** What do you usually rely on when you want to change a certain behavior or bad habit? Why do you think you cannot change yourself no matter how much you wanted to?
- 3. The Old Has Gone.** What would you surrender to Jesus today to start following Him with all your heart, mind and soul, and turn away from your old self? Identify at least three.

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE

A recommended approach to begin disciple-making is: Pray-Care-Share.

Pray for people in your circle of influence. Pray with them, too.

Care for these people through sincere acts of kindness.

Share what Jesus has done in your life, share the gospel, and offer to help them know Jesus more.

List down the names of the people you would intentionally "pray-care-share" for. Ask your accountability partners to pray with you.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- New Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends