

Will you make a commitment? In faith, I boldly commit to:

- ___ worshipping
- ___ serving
- ___ learning (in Life Groups)
- ___ tithing
- ___ praying
- ___ inviting

DEEPER LIVING

Text: Hebrews 9:11-28

The Plain Truth:

Sacrificial giving _____ our grip
to God's _____ grace.

1. _____ worshippers see _____ as a natural part of worship.
2. Jesus' _____ gives us _____
_____ to God through prayer.
3. A _____ hand reflects a _____ heart.
4. Jesus is God's _____.

One Year Bible Reading

November 11: Ezekiel 23:1-49, Hebrews 10:18-39, Psalm 109:1-31, Proverbs 27:13
November 12: Ezekiel 24:1-26:21, Hebrews 11:1-16, Psalm 110:1-7, Prov. 27:14
November 13: Ezekiel 27:1-28:26, Hebrews 11:17-31, Ps. 111:1-10, Prov. 27:15-16
November 14: Ezekiel 29:1-30:26, Hebrews 11:32-12:13, Ps. 112:1-10, Prov. 27:17
November 15: Ezekiel 31:1-32:32, Heb. 12:14-29, Ps. 113:1-114:8, Prov. 27:18-20
November 16: Ezekiel 33:1-34:31, Hebrews 13:1-25, Ps. 115:1-18, Prov. 27:21-22
November 17: Ezekiel 35:1-36:38, James 1:1-18, Psalm 116:1-19, Prov. 27:23-27

November 10 & 11, 2018

Life Group Lesson

Week of November 11

Jesus was God's tithe. When the Father sent His Son into this world, God gave His best. We must remember that God doesn't ask anything of us that He Himself has not already promised, provided for, or accomplished. God does not want us to overwork ourselves, so He gives His children the gift of Sabbath. God does not want His children to be enslaved by mammon, so He graciously gives us opportunity to tithe. God does not want His children to be yoked with fear, sin, or rebellion, so He invites us to yoke up with Him (Matthew 11:28-30). Through the Holy Spirit, any person who sincerely seeks Christ can boldly enter God's Presence and receive new power every day for deeper living.

The Lord Jesus holds three unique 'offices' in heaven for all eternity! Christ is King, Priest, and Sacrifice. The magi (wise men from eastern lands who brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Christ-child) had it right when they followed the star to Bethlehem. The birth of the LORD's Christ was not an after-thought on the part of God the Father. The price God paid for your salvation "was not mere gold or silver. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose Him as your ransom long before the world began, but He has now revealed Him to you in these last days" (1 Peter 1:18-20).

Read Hebrews 9:11-28

At the beginning of Christ's ministry on this earth, more than once John the Baptist declared: "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29, 36). John the Baptist understood his role and was not threatened at the growing popularity of Jesus: "No one can receive anything unless God gives it from heaven... He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less" (John 3:27, 30).

1. Spirit-filled worshipers see sacrifice as a natural part of worship. Reflect a few moments on pre-resurrection sacrifice—for example, the life of John the Baptist (forerunner of Christ) and the life of Christ Himself (His humble birth, ministry, suffering, grief, death on the cross). How is sacrificial living an overflow of true worship? How are you seeing this to be true in your own life?

What does Hebrews 5:8 say about the Son of God?

What challenges (suffering) are you facing today? What is God teaching you in this season of your life?

Imagine yourself personally hearing Jesus' invitation: "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Can you hear the Lord calling your name? Are you willing to 'yoke up' with Jesus and start serving others like He did?

2. Jesus' sacrifice gives us direct access to God through prayer. Your heavenly Father wants to hear from you. What needs/concerns do you need to bring before your Father today? Will you trust Him... (Psalm 116:1-2, Hebrews 9:25, John 16:22-24)

God has been so generous toward us, we must begin to train ourselves to see tithing as a way to emulate our heavenly Father. Start by practicing gratitude on a daily basis. God's Word says: "Light shines in the darkness for the godly. They are generous, compassionate, and righteous. Good comes to those who lend money generously and conduct their business fairly. Such people will not be overcome by evil. Those who are righteous will be long remembered... They share freely and give generously to those in need. Their good deeds will be remembered forever. They will have influence and honor" (Psalm 112:4-6, 9).

3. A clenched hand reveals a clenched heart. But praise the Lord, we can decide to 'un-clutch' our grip at any time. Ask the Lord to help you live a life of "NO REGRETS" starting today. Every good thing we have is a gift from God (James 1:17). Since tithing is "Obedience 101" – how is the Lord calling you to step it up to Obedience 201 (or 301, 401)? Be specific in at least one way. Write it below—