

## INSPIRED WORD

May 22, 2019

### SCRIPTURE

Today in the office of the readings, the third psalm was **Psalm 47** and as we were praying that this morning I thought how much it describes what we're about here. It reads like this (**vs.1-3, 5-8**): *Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. He subdues peoples under us, and nations under our feet. God goes up with shouts of joy. The Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praises to God, sing praise! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm. God is king over all the earth; God reigns on his holy throne.* So that's why we're here tonight. We're here to give that praise and worship to our wonderful God.

### PRAYER

We gather together here in this place to really offer the Lord a sacrifice, and that sacrifice is the praises that we raise to him. Lord, you gather us together as Your people tonight. Send Your Holy Spirit upon us that we might praise You from the depths of our being because You are worthy. Glory to You.

### SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

**Acts 2:1-4:** *When the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place, and suddenly there came a sound from heaven as a rushing, mighty wind. And it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues of fire and one set upon each of them and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.* Lord, we just praise You and exalt You and magnify Your holy name. We just pray for the presence of Your Holy Spirit, that it would be our portion, that it would truly be our portion this night. That You would come and dwell among us, and that You would fill us with Your presence, Your holy presence, Your righteous presence, Holy Spirit. We just praise You and exalt You and magnify Your name, for You alone are the King of kings, righteous and true, holy and just, righteous in all Your ways.

### SCRIPTURE

**Psalm 67:1-5** says: *May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, so may your way be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. May the peoples praise thee, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you!*

## SHARING

So while we were singing that song I was taken back to when I was in middle school and they played this song a lot at youth group – a lot, weekly sometimes. But anyways, there was one week when there was a lot of heaviness and I'm not sure why but my heart was just really heavy. And I remember they started playing this song and immediately I threw off my shoes and went to the front of the church and just danced around like nobody's business. And they said, "We're going to do that song again because there just seems to be some people who need to dance with their Dad tonight." And I said, "Yes!" And I had that same impression here. There are some people who need to dance with Dad tonight. So go ahead.

## SCRIPTURE

Hello everybody. I have a scripture I want to share. It's **Luke 24:44-49**: *Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high."* And I was just thinking that when He opened their minds to the scriptures then they finally understood, you know, what Jesus was talking about when they were palling around with Him. And just like us, they were all called to bring people to Jesus and bring people to the church, like we're called to do. Amen and praise God.

## SCRIPTURE

This is **Isaiah 43:2-3**: *When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and through the rivers, you shall not drown; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.*

## SHARING

Listening to the songs tonight was like reaching out in faith and if you remember all the miracles that happened in both the Old Testament and the New Testament, the people did something to reach out to God. My Ma always told me that you take a baby step towards God and God makes twenty giant steps towards you. And that's how the Lord is. And it's a matter of having faith in the Almighty and let the river of grace flow through us and then allowing us to continue in the praise and worship of our Almighty God and ever loving Father. And in doing this, all the garbage the world throws at us becomes nominal. We've just laid it down at the foot of the cross for Jesus. And we know God loves us and wants the best for each and every one of us.

## **EXHORTATION**

For some reason this came to mind. Well, basically at the start of the meeting we weren't playing very well but as we got into it and we started to surrender to the Lord and to basically offer ourselves to Him, we started getting better. And I think about it – that's true in all of life. I mean, on our own we're pretty messed up, but when we offer ourselves to God, He takes our messed up life and makes it whole and makes it something beautiful. Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE / SHARING**

I've been thinking about what Ruth said before about dancing with Jesus, and it just keeps staying with me. We sang one song that was similar to the reading in **Revelation 22:17**: *The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let him who hears say, "Come." Whoever is thirsty, let him come; whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.* **Revelation 19:5-7**: *Then a voice came from the throne saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both small and great." Then I heard what sounded like a multitude, like a roar of rushing waters, like a loud peal of thunder, shouting, "hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory, for the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready.* Today at work, one of the techs and I were emailing back and forth and somehow we got talking about dancing. One of our engineers a few years ago, he and his wife did competitive dancing, and at lunch time he would teach us how to dance. And it was amazing. We'd take one of the conference rooms and he simply had to touch the back of our backs and we would know instinctively what direction to turn next. So when Ruth was saying, "Jesus", I kept thinking the Bridegroom. Just let the Bridegroom, Jesus, lead us in our path of life with Him. He will lead; we just need to follow.

## **EXHORTATION**

I have a little to add to the scripture I was reading earlier, when Jesus said He opened the minds of the apostles to scripture, that's what we should do. We should pray to God and ask Him to open our minds to scripture and He will reveal Himself to us in word and in deed. Amen.

## **SHARING**

During the song we just sang a thought came to me – Let go of things. I hope they go away. I want them to go. And that ties into the Lord doing... His holy will be done