

# Live for the Glory of God

## The Disciple's Response to the Excellence of God

### How would you like to be remembered?

- ✓ As a successful person in my field of work.
- ✓ As one who accumulated great wealth and possessions.
- ✓ As one who knew how to party and have a good time.
- ✓ As a great philanthropist.
- ✓ As a selfless humanitarian.
- ✓ As one who paid their bills, provided for their family and stayed out of jail.

**Most people, at some point in their lives,** think about the legacy they will leave behind when their lives come to an end. And most often, it is to have others remember us in a positive way, the more positive the better! But what was Jesus' desire? Here is what was uppermost in His' mind when He knew the end was near.

"Jesus spoke these things;  
and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said,  
'Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son,  
that the Son may glorify You,'"

John 17:1

1. What did Jesus mean by 'glorify'? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Jesus being glorified result in the Father being glorified? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus' prayer summarized the primary mission of His life ... to bring glory to His Heavenly Father! It was the reason for everything Jesus said and did while on Earth. He desired more than anything that God be *magnified* and *honoured* to the highest degree through His life. That ought to be our primary goal as well! As stated by the Shorter Westminster Catechism:

Memorize 

"The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever."

### John 17:1

Circle or Underline ...

- ✓ What has come.
- ✓ What Jesus asked for.
- ✓ His reason for asking this.

The glorification of the Father depended on the glorification of the Son ... in His suffering, death, resurrection and ultimate re-glorification at the right hand of the Father. It revealed God's sacrificial love, justice and wisdom in one moment.

God is likewise glorified when we willingly fulfill His Purpose and Plan for our lives whatever it requires. That is the reason we live and the chief end of our lives.

## What It Means to Glorify God

To glorify God is to so manifest His Person through your life that others will clearly see Him through you. Jesus glorified His Father perfectly as the writer of Hebrews attests:

Memorize 

And (Jesus) is  
the radiance of (God's) glory and  
the exact representation of His nature, ...

Hebrews 1:3a

What is significant about how Jesus is described? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Of all Christians, no one sought to glorify God more than **the apostle Paul**. Listen to his testimony below:

- 6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness,"  
is the One who has shone in our hearts  
to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God  
in the face of Christ.
- 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,  
so that the surpassing greatness of the power  
will be of God and not from ourselves; ...
- 10 ... always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus,  
so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

2 Corinthians 4:6-7, 10

1. Who/what does the 'Light' refer to? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What does having 'this treasure in earthen vessels' mean? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What does Paul mean by the second part of verse 7? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How does 'carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus' relate to the life of Jesus being 'manifested in our body'? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Hebrews 1:3a

Circle or Underline ...

✓ What Jesus is.

It is impossible not to conclude the divinity of Jesus from this verse. He radiated God exactly because He was God absolutely!

## 2 Corinthians 4:6-7, 10

Circle or Underline ...

- v 6 What will shine in the darkness.
- v 7 What we have in earthen vessels.  
In order that what will be of God.
- v 10 What Paul carried in his body.  
What they manifested in their body.

Jesus is the light of the world who came to extinguish the darkness in men's hearts by radiating God's glory through His life. We who possess Him possess His life and light in our bodies which are revealed when we die to our flesh and live in the spirit by faith in God's truth.



Philippians 1:20-21

## Why We Should Glorify God

This question should not even be raised, for our indebtedness to the Gospel is reason enough. But Paul explains it further below.

Memorize 

- 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?
- 20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore **glorify God in your body.**

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

1. What is significant about our bodies being a temple of the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What reason is given for glorifying God in our bodies? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### How We Glorify God.

Near the completion of His life, Jesus confidently testified how He brought glory to His Father.

"I glorified You on the earth,  
having accomplished the work  
which You have given Me to do."

John 17:4

1. How did Jesus bring glory to His Father? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How does accomplishing the work God has given us glorify Him? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What work has God given you to do? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Circle or Underline ...

- v 19 What you must know.  
Who is in you.  
What you are not.
- v 20 What is true of you.  
What you therefore should do

We must glorify God in our bodies because inevitably, we have no other choice! In truth, the decision to glorify God is not ours to make for we are not our own. God has purchased us through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ, and has the authority to command us to do whatever He desires. If that is to glorify Himself, we have absolutely no right to deny Him for He owns us completely.

### John 17:4

Circle or Underline ...

- ✓ What Jesus did on earth.  
✓ How He did it.

By accomplishing the work God gave Him to do, Jesus magnified God through His Life. Jesus Himself testified that everything He did and said was not of Himself but the Father working and speaking through Him. (John 14 10-11) Jesus knew exactly what His Father wanted Him to do and say each moment, and completely yielded Himself to be used to the glory of God.

How many of us know what work God has given us to do? If God is glorified through our accomplishing that work, don't you think we had best find out as soon as possible?

## Jesus also taught how we must glorify God.

Memorize 

- 5 "I (*Jesus*) am the vine, you are the branches;  
he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit,  
for apart from Me you can do nothing. ...
- 8 "My Father is glorified by this,  
that you bear much fruit,  
and so prove to be My disciples.

John 15:5, 8

1. Explain how one is able to 'bear much fruit'? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean to 'bear much fruit'? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How does bearing fruit glorify God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How does it prove we are Jesus' disciples? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Jesus' Eternal Glory

Because Jesus is the Son of God, there is a way He could glorify His Father in which we never will.

"Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself,  
with the glory which I had with You  
before the world was."

John 17:5

1. What is significant about the phrase 'glorify Me together with Yourself'? \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What does Jesus mean by the second part of this verse? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## John 15:5, 8

Circle or Underline ...

- v5 What Jesus is.  
What we are.  
Who bears 'much fruit'.  
v8 How the Father is glorified.

Jesus used the metaphor of the grapevine to illustrate the key principle of abiding or walking continually with Him. Those who continually abide in Christ will experience His life living through theirs resulting in much fruit ~ the manifestation of Jesus' life and works ~ in us. In this God is magnified!

Even as a tree that bears apples proves itself to be an apple tree, or a plant that bears grapes proves itself to be a grapevine, even so, those who manifest the life of Christ through their own prove to be true disciples of Christ!

## John 17:5

Circle or Underline ...

- ✓ How Jesus asked to be glorified.
- ✓ When Jesus was glorified with the Father.

Jesus did not glorify God only after the incarnation. He shared the divine glory with His Father from eternity past, as they do even now to eternity!

His earthly life was merely a continuation of an existence glorifying His Father from everlasting to everlasting.

## Live for the Glory of God

List key Truths and Principles you learned from this study:

- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

In light of what what you learned, list what you will do.

- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do,  
**do all to the glory of God.**

1 Corinthians 10:31