

Life Group Notes 11/10/2024
Pastor Richie Cayabyab Grounded Week 8 Worship

[No doctrine is a given unless it has been found in the Word given by the Holy Spirit and received by you. If you have observations or questions, feel free to send me an email with your comment or observations at tbeachhead@comcast.net. Thank you for taking the time—Pete Mehegan, the Scribe.]

Remember: Be good to one another. Be sensitive and kind. Let God heal our hearts...and guide our discussions. **PLEASE PRE-READ THESE NOTES AND CHOOSE THE DIRECTION THAT IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR GROUP.** BE COGNIZANT OF YOUR GROUP'S TIME AND BE SENSITIVE! **Some groups would like to dwell on a single idea. Let the Spirit be your guide. Never feel obligated to complete this study.**

Note: I have highlighted suggested discussion questions that Pastor Mark has raised this week, 11/10. Let's allow the Holy Spirit to guide all our discussions, using the highlights as trail blazes. **The purpose is to minister to one another.** I include each of the passages mentioned in full, to facilitate the enjoyment of these notes. Footnotes are not meant to distract. This week's footnotes include:

1. [On worship, praise and thanksgiving. Differentiating aspects.](#)

*****Important:** At the very [end of these notes](#), I've included passages that were mentioned in this week's message for deeper study using SOAP journaling to help further your study during the week. ***

Pastor Richie opened by saying he didn't think he can finish this message on worship in the next two hours:

1. What did that make you think?
2. What are your first thoughts when it comes to worship?
3. How long would the message take if you were the one assigned to teach it?
4. What have you learned about worship since you began this journey? Do you have a testimony?

He says, "Our goal is to let you know that you are not alone in this church. You are part of a church family that is pursuing the Heart of the Father in Jesus name. We have a guide in the Holy Spirit."

1. Explain.
2. How well does Grace succeed in this mission, recognizing this message?

He states, "I'm always nervous...because I don't want to lead worship in my flesh."

1. What does worship in the flesh look like?
2. What does it include?
3. What does it avoid?

Look up 1 Samuel 6: [14](#)And David, wearing a linen ephod, danced with all his might before the LORD, [15](#)while he and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and the sounding of the ram's horn.

16As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Saul's daughter Michal looked down from a window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, and she despised him in her heart.

17So they brought the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it. Then David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

18When David had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of Hosts. **19**Then he distributed to every man and woman among the multitude of Israel a loaf of bread, a date cake, and a raisin cake. And all the people departed, each for his own home.

1. What do you see?
2. What did David's worship include?
3. What did it not include?
4. What was Michal's problem, in your own words. What did she see instead of what you are seeing?
5. Have you ever thought like Michal? Care to share?
6. Have you ever danced like David did? Care to share?

Pastor Richie reviewed the last seven weeks in this series. He said, "Was last week's message ever uncomfortable! Because if you have a problem giving 10%, how are you ever going to give your all?"

1. Answer the question.
2. Have you ever thought that question through?
3. Do you have a testimony?
4. Was Mark's message uncomfortable?
5. Is it still uncomfortable?
6. Have you ever heard the worship song that went, "I give you my 10%?"
7. Why has it never been written? Would you want to write the lyrics? Could you?
8. Have you ever sung, "I give you my all?" What did you include when you sang those lyrics? What is held back?

Pastor Richie listed five elements of worship. Can you list them?

- Whom do we worship? God. What is His name? Jesus.
- What is worship? It's about loving God back, because He loved us first. How do you love God? It has to be ALL, and not even 99%. And there has to be something in us that recognizes that there is more of us to give.
- Where do you worship? Everywhere. (If we've given all, which part of "everywhere" is excluded? Is Walmart the exception?)
- When do you worship? All the time. (If we've given all...which part of "when" is excluded?)
- Why do we worship? Richie says, "Because He's worthy. Period." Jesus' love for us propelled Him to do what He did to set us free. And apart from that act, He is still worthy.

1. What do you see?
2. What would think if we removed the worship portion from the service on Sunday?
3. Richie listed comments he hears all the time, "It's too long. It's too loud. I'm not musical. I don't like the songs." Have you ever noticed or thought this?

4. How would Michal act toward the worship at GCC? How would David react?

Look up Revelation 4: [5](#)From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings, and peals of thunder. Before the throne burned seven torches of fire. These are the seven Spirits of God. [6](#)And before the throne was something like a sea of glass, as clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, covered with eyes in front and back. [7](#)The first living creature was like a lion, the second like a calf, the third had a face like a man, and the fourth was like an eagle in flight. [8](#)And each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around and within. Day and night they never stop saying:

“Holy, Holy, Holy,
is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!”

[9](#)And whenever the living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to the One seated on the throne who lives forever and ever, [10](#)the twenty-four elders fall down before the One seated on the throne, and they worship Him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

[11](#)“Worthy are You, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for You created all things;
by Your will they exist and came to be.”

1. What do you see?
2. What do you estimate will be the decibel level?
3. Have you ever seen elders falling down? What did you think when you saw that?
4. Are you ever disturbed by excessive outward manifestations of worship?

Now look up Revelation 14: [1](#)Then I looked and saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 who had His name and His Father’s name written on their foreheads. [2](#)And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of many waters and the loud rumbling of thunder. And the sound I heard was like harpists strumming their harps. [3](#)And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. And no one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

1. What do you see? How many are making noise?
2. What do you estimate will be the decibel level?
3. Would you be comfortable in this environment?
4. Why are they singing so loudly?
5. Have you ever cheered at a football game? How loud were you? What would you estimate was the decibel level?

Pastor Richie emphasizes that worship is not just singing. He says, “It’s more than singing.”

1. Explain.
2. Looking at the above passages, from David’s example *and* in heaven, what does worship include?
3. When we’re “casting crowns,” what are we casting? What does it mean to cast crowns?
4. He says, “Worship is everything that we do.” Explain.

5. He compared worship to water baptism. Explain. How much of our body gets wet? How much goes underwater? How much stays out of the water?
6. Why is there no shame when we give ourselves to be baptized?
7. If you are baptized in the Spirit, does the baptism ever end? Does the water ever dry up?

Look again above, at the passage from Revelation 4.

1. Look at the creatures in verse 6. How many eyes do they have? What do they see?
2. What do they miss? Anything?
3. What is their response to Him Who sits on the Throne?
4. Do you have any questions?
5. What percent of their being have they included in worship?
6. Describe the nature of their worship?
7. Read the words the creatures sing. What are they praising?

Richie lists the various words in Hebrew that are used to describe worship.

Look at [footnote 1, below](#). When you have time, follow the link.

1. What do you learn?
2. Which of the concepts mentioned are most common in our service?
3. Which are the least common? Why?

Examine Ezekiel 28: [11](#) Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying, [12](#) “Son of man, take up a lament for the king of Tyre, and tell him that this is what the Lord GOD says:

‘You were the seal of perfection,
full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

[13](#) You were in Eden,
the garden of God.

Every kind of precious stone adorned you:
ruby, topaz, and diamond,
beryl, onyx, and jasper,
sapphire, turquoise, and emerald.

Your mountings and settings were crafted in gold,
prepared on the day of your creation.

[14](#) You were anointed as a guardian cherub,
for I had ordained you.

You were on the holy mountain of God;
you walked among the fiery stones.

[15](#) From the day you were created
you were blameless in your ways—
until wickedness was found in you.

[16](#) By the vastness of your trade,
you were filled with violence, and you sinned.

So I drove you in disgrace
from the mountain of God,
and I banished you, O guardian cherub,
from among the fiery stones.

17Your heart grew proud of your beauty;
you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor;
so I cast you to the earth;
I made you a spectacle before kings.

18By the multitude of your iniquities
and the dishonesty of your trading
you have profaned your sanctuaries.
So I made fire come from within you,
and it consumed you.
I reduced you to ashes on the ground
in the eyes of all who saw you.

19All the nations who know you
are appalled over you.
You have come to a horrible end
and will be no more.”

1. What do you see?
2. What brought about Tyre's downfall?
3. How are pride and flesh connected?
4. Look at verse 14. What rank had been delegated to Tyre?
5. Look at verse 15-16. What happened?
6. Is an exalted position a guarantee of success?
7. Is anything happening today that parallels this passage?
8. Review Ezekiel 16: **48**As surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD, your sister Sodom and her daughters never did as you and your daughters have done. **49**Now this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed, and complacent; they did not help the poor and needy. **50**Thus they were haughty and committed abominations before Me. Therefore I removed them, as you have seen. How did Israel in these verses compare to Tyre? How do we compare?
9. Look at Proverbs 11:**2**[When pride comes, disgrace follows, but with humility comes wisdom.](#) Now look at Proverbs 16: **18**[Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.](#) What is the caution?
10. What do you think? What is included if worship is in the flesh?
11. Richie asks, “Where is the scripture that says, ‘Only sing when you *can* sing...’ or ‘Only sing what you’re into?’” Answer him.
12. Have you ever had a problem raising your hands in church? Do you have a testimony?
13. Discuss Richie's testimony of the “closet Christian.” Do you remember? What was the issue? How had his wife raced past him?
14. If you're hiding your heart from others, does God see your heart? What does He know that you have not admitted yet?
15. Richie talks about worshiping in freedom. What does that mean?

Look up John 4: **21**“Believe Me, woman,” Jesus replied, “a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **22**You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. **23**But a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the

Father is seeking such as these to worship Him. [24](#)God is Spirit, and His worshipers must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

1. What do you see? What does Jesus mean?
2. Were there true worshipers in Jerusalem at the time?
3. What was the difference, then, between worshipers in Jerusalem, and worshipers in Samaria?
4. What did those in Jerusalem know and how did they know it?
5. Do you know more than they did? Explain.
6. When does worship in Spirit and Truth begin? Does it ever end?
7. What part does the Holy Spirit play in this?
8. Take a moment to recognize Him in your company right now. Invite Him to teach you.

Richie recalled the well-known song, "I'm coming back to the heart of worship." Can you sing it? Whom is it all about? He continued, "If we are truly worshipping, the church would be louder than ever. The church would be more expressive than ever. The church would be more afraid than ever." He says, "True worship is a heart that is repentant before the Lord." Look up Psalm 51: [16](#)"For You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; You take no pleasure in burnt offerings. [17](#)The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

1. What do you see?
2. Compare the heart described here to the heart of Tyre, above?
3. How does reverence fit into worship?

He continues, "True worship is a celebration. Look alive, church. You're serving a God Who's alive."

1. Explain.
2. What songs we sing come to mind when you think of celebration?
3. What do we have to celebrate?
4. What reason do we have to be quiet?

Look at what Paul explained to Timothy in 2 Tim 1: "[6](#)For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. [7](#)For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control. [8](#)So do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me, His prisoner. Instead, join me in suffering for the gospel by the power of God."

1. What did Timothy have to fear? What suffering of Paul's had Timothy already witnessed first-hand, being with him? Where is this found in Acts?
2. Why would Paul write this? How was Timothy's experience and response like ours?
3. What is Paul's exhortation, in your own words? Why?
4. What role does shame play in extinguishing our testimony?
5. What is the power Paul speaks of? What things are impossible if that power is ours?
6. What is the love Paul is describing? How are we doing?
7. How does this exhortation fit into what Jesus described to the Samaritan woman at the well?
8. How does the spirit get quenched? How does it get "fanned into a flame?"
9. Richie says, "True worship is to die to yourself." Explain.
10. Look at Luke 9: [23](#)Then Jesus said to all of them, "If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. To whom was Jesus talking? How does this fit into Richie's message?
11. How does it fit into the concept of worship? ...of 100% and not 10%?
12. How hard is this call? Explain. What percent of Jesus was crucified?

13. Richie said, "And when you take up your cross, hallelujah! That means you're *willing* to pay." Explain.

14. When you pay, what is the reward in real terms in this life? What is promised?

Richie warns, "Unless you take this and apply it, the enemy is not scared. He's saying, 'Why should I worry? If they're not willing to even give a little bit, they're not willing to give their all.'"

1. Remind each other: Who's the enemy? Why is the enemy NOT your neighbor?

2. Why is it foolish to fear your neighbor?

3. Remember what Paul told Timothy: Why would the enemy be scared of you?

4. Who has greater power, you or the enemy? Say that out loud until you believe it.

Richie spoke of a moment at the last supper in Matthew 26: [29](#) *tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in My Father's kingdom.* [30](#) *And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.* [31](#) *Then Jesus said to them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of Me.*

1. What do you see?

2. Describe the moment. What prompted the singing? Who prompted the singing?

3. Have you ever noticed that they sang before they went out to the Mount of Olives? Is there significance in this? Explain.

4. Richie says, "This is MORE than singing." Explain.

5. Examine Psalm 66: [1](#) *Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!* [2](#) *Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious.* [3](#) *Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cower before You.* [4](#) *All the earth bows down to You; they sing praise to You; they sing praise to Your name.*" What do you see? Who is involved? Who is excluded?

6. What does a "joyful noise" sound like? Have you ever made a joyful noise? Do you have a testimony? If you cannot sing, can you make joyful noises?

7. Pastor Richie spoke to the dads: "You are a worship leader. You have a responsibility, not just to teach your kids or your family to clap and dance. You have the responsibility to follow Jesus. You are to remain in the presence of an awesome, holy, mighty, loving generous, protective Father in God, in Jesus and in His Spirit. To be in His presence." Explain. What will your family begin to see?

8. Richie says, "In the presence of God, he's going to speak to you. He's going to reveal things to you." Explain. Do you have a testimony already?

Richie spoke of his determination to find any excuse to spend time with his daughters. He spoke of his visit with them.

1. Do you remember?

2. What did you think of?

The Follow-up Application

1. Use the [SOAP journal studies](#) below throughout the week.

2. Decide to be a worshiper. Answer this question: What steps do I take to continue as a disciple of Jesus this week?

3. Decide on a percentage. Write it down. Declare it out loud.

Take the time to pray.

Scribe's Notes:

1. **On worship, praise and thanksgiving. Differentiating aspects**—The Hebrew language is rich with a vocabulary of worship. Richie spoke of several of the words included throughout the book of Psalms, where you can find these words in context. Here is a list:
 - a. **Shabach:** To shout loudly or command. Shabach is a call to proclaim God's greatness with boldness.
 - b. **Yadah:** To throw out the hands or to worship with extended hands. Yada invites us to surrender fully to God in worship.
 - c. **Halal:** To praise, celebrate, or boast. This word encourages us to be vocal and exuberant in our praise of God.
 - d. **Zamar:** To play musical instruments. Zamar reminds us that instruments can be used to glorify God.
 - e. **Barak:** To kneel down. Barach shows worship as an act of humility before God.
 - f. **Todah:** To give thanks or confession. Todah emphasizes worship as a response to what God has done for us.
 - g. **Tehillah:** To sing praises. Tehillah encourages us to express our heart's song to God.
 - h. **Taqa:** To clap or strike the hands together in praise. Taqa signifies joy and celebration in God's presence.
 - i. **Makal:** To dance or leap for joy. Makal reflects the physical expression of joy in worship. More can be discovered here at this site: <https://biblescripture.net/9-hebrew-words-for-worship-and-praise-how-to-use-them/>

For further study:

Take a moment each day this week to apply the **SOAP**... (**S**cripture—Copy the scripture. / **O**bservation—Write what you see. / **A**pplication—What is God saying? / **P**rayer—What is your response?) ...method to some of the scripture we looked at this week:

Monday: 2 Samuel 6:14-19
Tuesday: 1 Chr. 15:27-16:3
Wednesday: Revelation 4:5-11
Thursday: Revelation 14:1-3
Friday: Psalm 98:3-5
Saturday: Ezekiel 28:11-19
Sunday: Psalm 100