

God's Plan of Salvation:

1. Hear - Romans 10:17
2. Believe - Mark 16:16
3. Repent - Acts 2:38
4. Confess - Romans 10:10
5. Be baptized - Acts 22:16
6. Live faithfully - Revelation 2:10

Announcements:

Sick: Mr. Brown, Mr. Dowling, Mr. Garner, Mr. Hadley, Ms. Donna Law, Ms. Kim (Ashley Law's mother), Lamar Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Newsome, Mrs. Owens, Ms. Ward, Mr. Winns.

If you would be interested in any of the following ways to study the Bible, feel free to let us know:

- Home Bible Study - We will come into your home or other place you feel comfortable and study the Bible with you. Bible questions are welcome in these studies and we will seek to give a Bible answer.
- Correspondence courses - We will be glad to mail you a correspondence lesson that you can fill out and mail back to us and we will send you the next lesson.
- Call us with your Bible question - #503-707-6014.
- Visit our website: www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com
- Come and visit - We always strive to have good, practical Bible instruction at each of our assemblies.

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Acts of Worship - Part 5

By Derek Long

When Jesus commissioned His disciples to go and make other disciples, He pointed out part of that process involves, "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:18-20, NKJV). Early Christians understood the importance of teaching and receiving instruction from God's word. Acts 2:42 tells us the early Christians, "continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine" (NKJV). They were receiving teaching from the apostles who were being inspired by God in the things they taught. When early Christians gathered together to worship God, one of the things which we see taking place is teaching. Acts 20:7 says, "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight" (NKJV). Paul spoke to these Christians during the same gathering and period of time when they came together to break bread or observe the Lord's Supper. Teaching is not an activity which is to be limited to the first day of the week, like the Lord's Supper and giving, because we see teaching occurring daily among the disciples (Acts 19:9).

Here are some reasons teaching is important part of our worship to God:

- Teaching is important because it can instruct us in things we do not already know. A person who becomes a Christian does not know everything there is to know about God and His word. Christians are taught they need to grow in their knowledge. 1 Peter 2:2 encourages us to, “as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby” (NKJV). 2 Peter 3 warns about how people will at times twist the Scriptures resulting in their destruction (vs. 15-17). Christians are warned, “beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked” (2 Peter 3:17, NKJV). The thing which will help us from being led astray is growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18). Ephesians 4:11-15 also points out the same thing. Teaching helps us come to, “the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (vs. 13, NKJV), and not be, “carried about with every wind of doctrine” (vs. 14, NKJV).
- Teaching is important because we need to be reminded at times of things we have already learned. When Paul writes to Timothy and Titus about their work as evangelists, he includes reminding the brethren as a part of their work (2 Timothy 2:14; Titus 3:1). 2 Peter is written not to impart new information to people but to remind them of things they already knew (2 Peter 1:12-15; 3:1). Teaching as a part of our worship to God reminds us of things we might already have known but might forget if we are not reminded of them again.
- Teaching is important because it provides us with a greater understanding of who God is and what God has done for us.

Worship has to do with things like honoring God. Our teaching should honor God by showing His greatness, His character, and His marvelous will for us. Examining the epistles shows us teaching God’s word should result in us being filled with praise and worship toward God. For example, after Paul had dealt with God’s plan of saving man through the gospel he says, “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! ... For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen” (Romans 11:33-36, NKJV). In 1 Timothy 1:17, after Paul speaks of his thankfulness to Jesus for saving him, he adds, “Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen” (NKJV). The book of Jude has encouraged people to contend earnestly for the faith (Jude 3). As it comes to its conclusion, it sounds like it is filled with worship to God, “Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen” (Jude 24-25, NKJV).

Teaching is an important part of our worship to God and should help us be more motivated to worship Him.