

## We Worship God

We read within the Bible that Christians assembled together upon the first day of the week to **worship God** through His Son, Jesus (Acts 20:7). When they met together, they studied God's word, prayed, sang hymns of praise, gave of their income, and partook of the Lord's supper. We have examples for each of these practices within the New Testament (Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 14:15; 16:1-2). We see in these simple, yet powerful, actions of worship, how God desires to be worshiped in the name of His Son, Jesus.

### We Worship God Because He Is Worthy

We worship God not to gain an emotional experience, but because God is worthy of our worship. Revelation 4:11 states, *"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."* The reason for our very existence is to give pleasure to God; it makes no sense for God's creation to fashion worship practices which give pleasure to the creature rather than the creator.

### We Worship God in the Way He Desires to be Worshiped

Indeed, who ought to determine how we are to worship? The one who worships? Or the one who deserves to be worshiped? Certainly, the creature has no right to tell the creator how he/she is going to worship Him. God Himself must tell us what we may do to worship; we dare not approach God with our own righteousness (Romans 10:1-3).

Jesus said that God desires to be worshiped in spirit and in truth. Spiritual worship is worshiping God out of a humble, respectful, and subservient attitude. Truthful worship means to worship God according to His word, for God's word is truth (John 17:17).

So as we worship together this day, let us focus upon God as the one toward whom we are worshipping; let us acknowledge His wishes in the way in which He would have us to worship Him; and let us be content to satisfy God in our worship as opposed to satisfying ourselves. ~Kevin Cauley

### Kennewick Church of Christ

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### Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

### Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; [ccbotts@hotmail.com](mailto:ccbotts@hotmail.com)

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; [Vern.engelke@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.engelke@gmail.com)

### Minister:

Casey Rice: 479-438-2038; [crice5523@gmail.com](mailto:crice5523@gmail.com)

Attendance 11/14: 24

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 11/14: N/A

November 21, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



### Comfortably Numb

The song "Comfortably Numb" by the English band Pink Floyd was released in 1980 as a single with "Hey You" as the B Side. Roger Waters, the bassist for Pink Floyd, wrote the lyrics to the song in which he describes an event that took place at a concert in Philadelphia in 1977. He had a horrific stomachache due to nerves. A doctor gave him tranquilizers before the show to ease the pain. He said it was the longest two hours of his life because everything was slowed down, and he could barely move his arms. The pain was numbed, but there was a disconnect from himself and the crowd. They continued to enjoy the show unaware of the situation on the stage. Waters was numbed to his emotions of playing before a large crowd, and the audience had been conditioned to like what they thought they heard.

In a similar fashion, there can be a numbing of our own emotion or awareness. Have you considered the dangers of comfort? We, as humans, are creatures that by nature seek comfort—in our clothing, homes, jobs, cars, and the list goes on. Comfort plays a role in everything we do. We avoid anything that would unhinge us from the comfort that we worked so hard to achieve. We scurry away from moments, events, or conversations that might be uncomfortable. We mark as a rare breed those that would live or talk outside the comfortable norms that we have established. We nestle into the solace of comfort and with great difficulty are we roosted from the path of greatest comfort. We have not so learned Christ (Eph. 4:20).

Our Lord was anything but comfortable. He had the uncomfortable conversations and teachings that others didn't want to have (John 4; Matt. 5-7). He sought out those that were most uncomfortable to be around (Matt. 9:11-13). A great deal of His messages were to roust men from the comfortable error they had made for themselves (Matt. 23).

We can see from the work and lives of the apostles, disciples and early saints that life was not about the comforts. Paul listed his many trials as a servant for the message of the cross—how many of us would have endured such a list (2 Cor. 11:16-33)? We are called to a life of self-denial as His servants (Matt. 16:24). When Paul wrote to Timothy, he used three examples of what it means to serve Christ (2 Tim. 2:1-7)—the soldier, athlete, and farmer—none of which can survive, compete, or labor effectively in a comfortable environment. If we are not doing things we know we should because it's too hard, too early, too awkward, or too much time, then we are too comfortable. We have been seduced into numbness by comfort. We are no longer pained by the lost world around us. We go on enjoying life unaware of the dangers to which we have become comfortably numb. Consider your comfort. ~Josh Blackmer

**For I delivered to you as of first importance that which I also received; that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:3,4)**

<b>Keep These Dates in Mind</b>	<b>November Birthdays and Anniversaries</b>	<b>It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High</b>	
Nov 11/7 – Fellowship Meal after Sunday morning worship 11/09 - Study of Denominations 7:00p 11/18 - Study of Denominations 7:00p 11/23 - Study of Denominations 7:00p	Pat Lindsay 11/1 Beverly Downing 11/2 Andre Downing 11/6 Sallie Winstead 11/7 Gary & Linda Bills 11/10		
<b>Those with ongoing health issues:</b>	<b>Bible Studies</b>		
Pansy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Sandi Gray, Linda Lafferty, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Lupe Mendoza, Tami Pennington, Eunice Petros, Helen Pierce, Jim Preston	<b>Adult Bible Classes</b> (Fellowship Hall) Sunday am – 2 Samuel Wed pm – Gospel of John	<b>Young Adult Class</b> (Teen Room) Christian Living (Led by Danny Mendoza)	<b>Ladies Class</b> (Contact Sandi Gray for information)

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory” (Ephesians 1:3-12).*

## Enjoy your day of thanksgiving!

### *Our Ministries*

#### ***Mountain States Children's Home***

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

#### ***Peru Ministry*** – Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

#### ***Food Pantry*** - If you are in need of food assistance, please contact one of the men of the congregation and they will be able to help you with this need.

“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.” (Proverbs 19:17)

## Running to Obtain the Prize

*Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown” (1 Corinthians 9:24-25).*

Do you enjoy running? For most of my life I hated it. However, as I matured in my life, I learned to embrace running and enjoyed running for both its exercise value and the stress relieving value.

It is interesting that in the opening passage above, Paul compares the Christian life to running a race (1 Corinthians 9:24-25). He describes that at the beginning of a race many people start off, but only one person will win the prize. He encourages us to run in such a way as to be the winner of the race. While we know that there are many faithful Christians who will go to heaven when Christ comes again (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), Paul encourages each of us to run the Christian race with the determination of a runner who is going to be the sole winner of the prize.

To be effective runner involves many things such as breathing techniques, eating properly, and the length of strides one takes as he or she runs. Paul’s analogy of running a race points out the kind of self-control, temperance, and discipline it takes to be successful as a follower of Christ. He describes how a runner is “*temperate in all things*” (1 Corinthians 9:25), extremely focused running “**not with uncertainty**” (1 Corinthians 9:26), and must “*discipline*” his body (1 Corinthians 9:27).

Paul uses ancient Israel as an example. He describes how ancient Israel had passed through the Red Sea as they were led out of Egypt by Moses, fed with manna from heaven, and given water to drink by Christ (1 Corinthians 10:1-4). They had a very promising start to their race to the Promised Land! However, Paul adds, “*But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness*” (1 Corinthians 10:5). They had failed to have the kind of self-control, temperance, and discipline that it takes to be a successful follower of God. They began to “*lust after evil things*” (1 Corinthians 10:6), commit sexual immorality (1 Corinthians 10:8), and complain (1 Corinthians 10:10). As a result, not only did they not win the prize, but got off course as the roamed in the wilderness for 40 years, and fell short of reaching the finish line, the Promised Land.

The apostle now turns from speaking about Israel to challenging us: “*Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come*” (1 Corinthians 10:11). We should learn from ancient Israel that if we are going to be successful in following Christ as He leads us to our Heavenly home, we must not become distracted, undisciplined, and intemperate. Paul then adds: “*Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it*” (1 Corinthians 10:12-13).

What do you think about Paul’s description of using a runner competing for a prize as an analogy for living the Christian life? Some might look at this, become discouraged, and think “I can’t do this”. Let me encourage you to not resist the challenge of running the Christian race, but rather to embrace the challenge of running to reach the Promised Land!” ~Daily Devo, Susquehanna Church of Christ