

“Greeting Team”

For Sunday, December 8th

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go “welcome” people! NOTE: Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

Greeters this week:

Justin Taylor Sunday Night

- 1st— Odin Dart Thursday Night;
- 2nd— Justin Taylor Sunday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Monday Night;
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon; Tackett Sunday Night

Small Groups @ MBC

Are led by Biblically qualified leaders who receive ongoing support, oversight and curriculum approval from our team of Elders

Announcements

1. Christmas Eve Service:
Tuesday, December 24,
6:00-7:00 PM. “Invite Cards”
@ Welcome Desk
2. Looking For A 2025 Bible Reading Plan?
www.crossway.org/search/?q=bible+reading+plan

Don't Worship God Empty-Handed

So, my last few posts have focused on King David's communication to Israel, in I Chronicles 16, about the proper way to worship God. It's never acceptable to worship God according to our own homespun rules! We must worship Him in the way that He demands to be worshiped! One way that David commanded the congregation to worship God was with an offering! “Ascribe to Yahweh the glory of His name; bring an offering and come before Him. Worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness” (v.29). In other words, do not come to worship God empty-handed! Remember that we're stewards of God's stuff. Nothing we have actually belongs to us! We're not really owners of anything! We're managers of a portion of God's estate! God owns it all, and proper worship includes a return of a portion of His blessings to us in the form of an offering! He's the Creator! He's created all the wealth in the universe, and He lends it to us! So, worship God because He's the Creator! That's how David continues his admonition to the people of Israel: “...the world is firmly established; it cannot be shaken. Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, ‘The Lord is King!’ Let the sea and everything in it resound; let the fields and all that is in them exult. Then the trees of the forest will shout for joy before the Lord, for He is coming to judge the earth” (vv. 30-33). All of creation—the heavens, the earth, the sea and everything in it; the fields and all that is in it; the trees of the forest—all creation worships Him! Finally, David concludes with a charge to worship God now because it's what we'll do for all eternity: “Give thanks to the Lord,” he says, “for He is good; His faithful love endures forever. And say: ‘Save us, God of our salvation; gather us and rescue us from the nations so that we may give thanks to Your holy name and rejoice in Your praise. May Yahweh, the God of Israel, be praised from everlasting to everlasting” (v. 34). Clearly, it's a sign that a believer has not spent a lot of time in prayer and the Word when they express a fear that heaven may be boring!



We Can Only Imagine

After a billion years in heaven, we'll still not know God entirely! No amount of intimacy with Him will close the gap in our knowledge and understanding of an eternal, infinite God! I'm certain that I'll find Him more fascinating than all the Super Bowls and Star Trek reruns I've ever watched! Then all the people said “Amen” and “Praise the Lord” (v. 36). And there was great joy as God dwelt with His people as His Glory descended on the Ark of His Covenant with His people! One day, the Book of Revelation says, “God will dwell among us”; literally, “He will pitch a tent among us.” Joy flows from worship! If we're genuine God worshippers, we won't be able to hide it! It'll show on our faces! Grumpy Christians just aren't worshipping God as they should! So, worship God! It'll change your life! It'll change everything!