

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

12/3/17

Text: Luke 1:46-55 (ESV)

Title: My Soul Magnifies the Lord

Teacher: Josh Floyd

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

Josh began our first Sunday of Advent looking at Mary's song from Luke 1. As Mary declares, and as Josh taught us, our souls are meant to magnify the Lord, to draw great attention and glory to him and make him the center of our attention and praise. In our sin and brokenness, rather than magnifying the Lord we magnify ourselves, our image, and our good works, and seek the approval of the people around us. The beauty of the gospel message is that we don't need to seek the appeal or approval of the world, we've already caught the eye of God himself. God has shown his love for us in sending his son for us. He freed us from the bonds of sin and death so that we could magnify and worship him above everything else.

Reflection Questions:

- In Mary's song to the Lord she spends most of it quoting different scripture back to God. She has been so steeped in the Bible that when she thinks about giving praise to God, what comes out are God's own words, and she rejoices in God her savior.*
 - What things do you and your family tend to "magnify" and make much of in the Christmas season?**
 - What sources do you regularly "steep" yourself in (books, movies, tv, news, people...etc.)? How does that shape what you say when you consider who God is?**
- Josh said we struggle to magnify God because of our pride. We either don't want God, or we think we don't need him because we've got it all together. So, we spend our time magnifying ourselves. We're more concerned with our image than with his.*
 - What areas are you most concerned with your image?**
 - What vulnerable places or topics do you avoid for fear of it hurting your reputation?**
- For the non-Christian, the weight of sin and judgment is still on them, so they have to magnify themselves to overcome it. For the Christian, the weight of sin and judgment has been placed on Jesus, and they are freed to magnify the one who truly deserves all their attention and love.*
 - How has God shown himself to be a savior in your life, and how would you use His scripture to give him praise?**

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as a group as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart during your discussion.)

1. ADORATION (The Father)

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION (Me)

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

3. THANKSGIVING (Jesus)

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

4. SUPPLICATION (Holy Spirit)

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

MISSION

Prepare for Gospel Community:

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

Ask yourself, "What can I do to express my love for God and for others in response to this sermon?"