

EVANGEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

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Sunday Worship 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

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The Father Seeks Worshipers

Christianity is a revelation of God searching for man. Jesus said, “The Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:9) In all other religions man is searching for God. All through the scriptures God is seen searching for man. Remember, Adam and Eve hid from God after they had sinned. God came looking for them.

John chapter four sets forth the seeking of God through the Savior’s encounter with the Samaritan woman. This woman sought to embroil Him in a discussion concerning the proper location of worship. He responded, “An hour is coming and now is when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.” One should never recover from the impact of this truth. God is seeking my worship.

We should think of this in terms of both corporate worship and private worship. Remember, the Holy Spirit seeks to give Christ that which He desires. (John 16:13-14) We grieve the Holy Spirit when we spurn that which He seeks. We need to see this matter of worship clearly—as that which God seeks from us.

I sometimes hear people say, “I get very little out of my quiet time or family devotions.” This is also said of corporate worship. How can it compete with a day at the lake, etc.? But we are asking the wrong question! The important thing is what God gets out of it. He is seeking our worship.

For the believer, worship is not a luxury, it is life. Worship is not optional, it is essential. Worship is the Christian’s highest occupation. Worship is a personal response to divine revelation. God has revealed Himself and it’s up to us to respond. Worship, it has been said, “Is gone from our churches because it is largely gone from our homes.” It’s a matter of what is really important. We surely will find time to do that which God is seeking.

In Mark 1:35 we read of Jesus, “In the early morning, while it was still dark, He arose and went out to a lonely place and was praying there.” This was a morning between two very busy days.

Sometimes we find that it’s not convenient to take time to worship. The average person, it has been said, “Is looking for a religion that is comfortable and convenient.” There are plenty of them on the market but you cannot take cost and conflict out of Christianity and still have the genuine item. David refused to offer to God that which cost him nothing. It cost you nothing to receive God’s gift of eternal life. It may cost you everything for a spiritual life with impact. Proverbs 4:23 says, “Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.” The Christian life is a discipline not a dream and worship is the occupation of the heart and mind with God. Everything which attracts the flesh and its senses detracts from real worship.

There are many who attend services of worship out of a vague fear of what might happen if they don’t attend. But true worship is not founded on fear, but on love for God and gratitude for what God has done. It flows from a desire to know God and commune with Him. Jesus said, “True worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.”