

# *Living Water Fellowship*

*23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Pentecost – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022*

## *COME TO JESUS*

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION      REVIVAL ANTHEM (REND COLLECTIVE) CCLI 384660

**SONG:**      *Give us Hearts (AT 357)*

**WELCOME & PRAYER:**

## *GROW IN HIS GRACE*

**BIBLE READING:**      Mark 12:28-34

<sup>28</sup> One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized Jesus had answered well, so he asked, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “The most important commandment is this: ‘Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one & only Lord. <sup>30</sup> And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, & all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup> The second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ No other commandment is greater than these.”

<sup>32</sup> The teacher of religious law replied, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God & no other. <sup>33</sup> And I know it is important to love him with all my heart & all my understanding & all my strength, & to love my neighbour as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law.”

<sup>34</sup> Realizing how much the man understood, Jesus said to him, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

**CHILDREN’S TIME:**

**BIBLE READING:**      Colossians 3:23-24 & 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

<sup>23</sup> Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. <sup>24</sup> Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, & that the Master you are serving is Christ...<sup>11</sup> So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of his call. May he give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. <sup>12</sup> Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honoured because of the way you live, & you will be honoured along with him. This is all made possible because of the grace of our God & Lord, Jesus Christ.

**SONG:**      *You Call me to Love (AT 491)*

**FAITH CHAT:**

1. ?
2. ?

**THE MESSAGE:** *TABLE TALK: VOCATION*

**OFFERING SONG:** *Servant's Song (AT 682)*

**PRAYERS:**

**THE COMMUNION:**

*Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship Video during Communion: I NEED THEE EV'RY HOUR (FERNANDO ORTEGA) CCLI 384660*

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God,  
May Christ create in you an undivided heart.  
Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SONG:** *Dreams & Visions (AT 249)*

*SHOW HIS LOVE*

**Group Bible Study/Discussion:**

1. Read Mark 12:28-34, Colossians 3:23-24 & 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12. What questions come to mind? What do you find challenging? What really strikes you in these verses?
2. Read also 2 Thess 1:8-10. Paul describes the vastly different experiences of believers & unbelievers when Christ returns. Why is this crucial to understanding 11-12?
3. How is this delayed but anticipated justice of God an encouragement for the followers of Jesus? How are our lives between now & the final day an opportunity to honour God so others will give him glory?
4. For what three things did Paul pray for this church? (11) (You may want to read more than 1 translation) What would be the result of those three things? (12)
5. Given that the context is an awareness that this church is being persecuted; how is Jesus glorified through the difficulties, sufferings, & persecutions his people experience in our lives? How was Jesus glorified through his suffering?
6. What's the difference in seeing yourself as "working for the Lord" & not just a human employer or a human pay cheque? Does your enthusiasm for your "work" ever fade? Why do you think that happens? How does seeing Jesus as your "boss" avoid or overcome that lack of enthusiasm? Imagine yourself doing the least favourite part of your job for Jesus. How might it look different? How would your approach change?
7. If we see our vocation as one of the ways Christ uses us to bless our neighbour, what change does that effect in our workplace? (or our retirement?)
8. What does Jesus mean by saying that you are to love God "with all your heart & with all your soul & with all your mind & with all your strength"? What does that imply? What does it mean to love our neighbours as ourselves??
9. What do you think is the difference between 'love' as a noun, & 'love' as a verb? We often talk about being 'in love' or that 'all we need is love', do you think the world is good at really loving people? How about loving God? Why is that?
10. How would you describe the 'completeness' of God's love to someone who doesn't know that God loves them? How would you demonstrate God's love for all people by loving that person in front of you?
11. What makes this scribe both close to the kingdom of God & yet still not in the kingdom of God? Who do you know who is like that; & what will you do to lead them closer?
12. How would you respond to the person who says, "Jesus is telling us we need to learn how to love ourselves first & then to love others?" How would you help disciple the person who claims to love God but who doesn't seem to love other people very well?