• WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

This is Amazing Grace, Everlasting God, Beautiful Savior, Amazing Grace

• WELCOME

My Legacy. What is the most important thing that you can pass on to your loved ones?

• WORD

PHILIPPIANS 3:7-8

⁷ But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ.

Consciously or unconsciously, we all leave a legacy. It will be anchored on what proves to be the most important thing to us. If it is money, then our legacy is the love for money. If it is kindness or generosity, then that is what we will be passing on. The question "What legacy will you be leaving behind?" is also a question of "What are you pursuing today?". For the life that we live is actually the legacy that we leave.

Our greatest fear should not be failing but succeeding on things that do not really matter. Life is too short to be wasted on the wrong goals. But the legacy we leave behind is something we can decide early on, way ahead before we die. Truth is, if we are not ready to die, we are not ready to live. Today can be the day we are to write our legacy.

We may have regrets for the wrong things we have done, but in Jesus, our past should not be final. Take for example King David. He made grave mistakes in his life. But he repented before God and for that he left a legacy as the man after God's own heart, and served God's purpose in his generation (**Acts 13:22, 36**). It is never too late to rewrite our legacy.

A godly legacy is anchored on what is eternal something that will outlast our lifetime. Our greatest legacy, therefore, is in knowing Jesus experientially (**John 17:3**). But how do we pass on a godly legacy? We can learn principles from the life of Apostle Paul.

PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

To pass on a godly legacy, we must first have a personal relationship with Jesus simply because we cannot give what we do not have.

Apostle Paul considered everything he is and counted all he possessed including his race,

religion, education, position, influence, wealth, etc., and took it all as a loss compared to the surpassing value of intimacy with Jesus (**Philippians 3:7–8**). The Christian life is not always addition, sometimes we need to subtract in order to add.

Remember that the Bible is not against money, material possessions or success – these are all good. Many times, however, the enemy of the Christian life is not the bad things but the good things that has become our idols. To pass on a godly legacy, we must be willing to let go of anything that slows us down from following the most important of all things–Jesus. To pass on a legacy, we must know what is the most important thing in our lives.

What would make a man like Paul be willing to suffer and consider everything as rubbish compared to gaining Christ? It was no less than his personal encounter with Jesus. For Paul to live is Christ, and to die is gain (**Philippians 1:21**). He knew that his righteousness will never be enough and that only the righteousness of Jesus, which he gained by faith, was sufficient to save Him (**Philippians 3:9**).

PURSUE INTIMACY WITH JESUS

A personal encounter with Jesus opens our eyes and changes our values and character which leads us to pursuing intimacy with Him. Pursuing intimacy with Jesus is experiencing the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of his suffering, as well as being conformed into Christlikeness (**Philippians 3:10**). It is experiencing His amazing power to change our lives and to deliver us from bondages, addiction or ill-will.

Pursuing intimacy with Jesus usually happens during

O WORD (CONT'D)

the storms of life. God allows problems to draw us closer to Him. We will never know that Jesus is sufficient until all we have is Him. God sometimes takes away relationships and all that we are depending on so that all we have is the Lord. Only then will we realize that He alone is enough.

If we are not passionate for Jesus, we will not have the desire to pass on a godly legacy because we have not experienced Him. But when we are in love with Jesus, the natural outflow can only be to share this love with others.

Paul also humbly says that he is not there yet but the one thing he pursues is Jesus; forgetting the past and pressing on towards the goal (**Philippians 3:13**). King David also prayed for the same thing – intimacy with God (**Psalm 27:4**).

PASSING ON INTENTIONALLY

Our main preoccupation should be to know Jesus

experientially and to make Him known. This means we are to make disciples who will make disciples (**2 Timothy 2:2; Matthew 28:19–20**). A good example would be Sir John Newton. He also found the one thing that is most important. He pursued knowing Jesus and making Him known. He did not let his past mistake paralyze him. His relationship with Jesus compelled him to encourage others to pursue Jesus as well. As a result, he impacted the life of Hannah More, William Carey and William Wilberforce. Moore started the Sunday School movement, Carey became the father of modern mission, and Wilberforce authored the bill to completely abolish slave trade in the entire British empire.

Like Newton, you can also influence people by modeling a godly life (**Philippians 3:17**), one person at a time. What legacy are you leaving? Keep in mind what C.T. Studd said, "Only one life will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- **1.** Loss and Gain. What is the most important thing to Paul according to Philippians 3:7–8? What can you learn from the mathematical equation of Paul regarding loss and gain?
- 2. My Obituary. What would people remember you for? How will your obituary read?
- **3.** Subtract to Add. What are the things God is telling you to let go of in order to pursue intimacy with Him? What is the cost of this trade-off for you and for your loved ones?

O WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Lifegoals#6: Succeed in Leaving a Legacy Use the topic today in sharing the gospel to at least one more person to form part of your Godly legacy. Using the same token, invite the person to the greatest decision he/she can make to have eternal life which he/she can also pass on to others as Godly legacy.

Share with your small group in your next meeting how it did go.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives
- II. Country and the World
 - Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
 - Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love
 God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- School and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends