

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

Cover the Earth, How Great Thou Art, The Love of Jesus, Magnificent

WELCOME

Christian Identity. Give one word that describes a true follower of Jesus Christ.

WORD

JOHN 7:37-38

³⁷ Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink." ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, "From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water."

Our faith is only as good as the object of our faith. Our faith should not be in anything or anyone but Jesus Christ alone.

In John 7, Jesus told the religious leaders of His day that He was the Christ. In Ancient Greek, Christ means "Anointed One" or "Chosen One." The Hebrew equivalent was "Messiah."

This shocked the Jews. They had been waiting for the Messiah to come for a very long time. The Old Testament clearly taught them the Christ would be:

- Descended from Abraham (**Genesis 12:3**)
- In the royal line of King David (**Jeremiah 33:17**)
- A great King (**Jeremiah 33:15**)
- A great Prophet (**Deuteronomy 18:15**)
- A great Priest (**Psalms 110**)
- The Son of God (**Psalms 2:7**)
- A great light (**Isaiah 9:1-3**)
- He would be Man and God. (**Isaiah 9:6**)

But with what they knew about Jesus, it was hard for them to believe who Jesus claimed to be.

JESUS' INVITATION

Every Feast of Tabernacles, water would be poured on the altar, symbolizing God's provisions for the past, the present, and the future coming of the Messiah. Each year, the Jews would come to this feast expecting the Messiah. But each year, they would go home without seeing the Messiah.

So with that context, Jesus, on the last day of the feast, stood, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink" (**John 7:37**). He very clearly claimed to be the Messiah to the Jews.

Jesus' invitation is for everyone who thirsts. Jesus is calling the desperate, those with deep need inside of them and have an intense spiritual thirst. It is for the spiritually poor and desperate, just like the prodigal son (**Luke 15:11-24**) or the repentant tax collector (**Luke 18:9-4**).

Jesus is inviting the poor in spirit, mourning, humble, meek, hungry and thirsty for righteousness (**Matthew 5:3-6**). The invitation is for those who are desperate to depend on Him.

OUR RESPONSE

True repentance happens when you accept Jesus' invitation because you are thirsty for God's forgiveness, His righteousness and His presence.

Repentance is a change of mind that leads to a change in one's life direction, manifesting itself in a change of behavior. Jesus' invitation is a call to repentance, calling us to turn our backs on our old lives and ways; He is calling us to come to Him, the Messiah.

Jesus invites us to come and drink. To drink is to believe in Him, to place all our trust in Him. It is not just a matter of knowing that Jesus exists or that He died on the cross. It is believing and trusting Him with all our lives.

Coming to Jesus leads to true change. Every true believer has received the Holy Spirit (**Romans 8:9**). He indwells, seals, baptizes and fills us. If we have experienced true conversion, the Holy Spirit will be at work within us. It is inconceivable that we remain unchanged.

The Holy Spirit enables us to please God and to be a powerful witness to others. If we have true

WORD (cont'd)

conversion, then true change will be evident by the power of the Holy Spirit that is at work in us.

Being filled with the Spirit is not about how much of the Spirit we have, but about how much of us He has, how much of our life is yielded to His control. The Holy Spirit is a Person and not a quantity.

When the Holy Spirit is in us, the joy of the Lord in our hearts will just simply overflow.

We will find ourselves bubbling up with zeal to talk about Jesus and to make disciples regardless of our social status or condition in life.

Jesus is asking us to commit our lives to Him then go out and be a blessing to those around us. Have you been sharing about Jesus with others? Have you been discipling and walking people to become committed followers of Christ?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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

- 1. Come and Drink.** Who is Jesus according to **John 7:37**? What is the open invitation of Jesus?
- 2. Thirsty for Jesus.** What were you thirsty of that made you come to Jesus? Briefly share your story.
- 3. True Change.** If you have truly believed in Jesus, what are the evidences of your true conversion? How could these help you in sharing Jesus and discipling others?

WORKS

CHRIST-COMMITTED FOLLOWER

List down qualities and characteristics of a true and committed follower of Christ. Do you see these qualities in you? Share your notes with your accountability group.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

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

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

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