Section: Doctrine of God

Lesson 12: Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Q15. Why did God make us?

Q16. How should we glorify God?

Teacher: Justin Ader

**TEACHING NOTES**

**Greeting:**

Good evening church! My name is Justin Ader. I am the Youth Director and a member of the teaching team here at Disciples Church. I have been given the privilege to teach through our next two Word of Truth Catechism questions and answers tonight. They are Q15. Why did God make us? and Q16. How should we glorify God? We have a lot to unpack tonight, but before we get started working through these questions, let’s go to God in prayer. Pray with me.

**Introduction:**

Tonight’s first question is something that I am sure we have all thought of before. Maybe you’ve thought of this question as a believer, why did God make me? Or maybe you’ve thought about it as an unbeliever asking, why am I here on earth, what is my purpose, why do I exist? I recently shared with my high school boys this experience in my own life. When I was a 5-7 year old boy growing up in Washington State, I would lay on the grass in the springtime and look at the fluffy white clouds and beautiful blue sky and wonder about God and my purpose. When I got older, the wonder changed as I denied God. It changed to, why do I exist and what is my purpose?

This is something I also thought about. Here I am before you now as a child of God, and a person who has the answer to this question tonight. So, let’s start by looking at…

**Q15. Why did God make us?**

God made us to glorify Him, so His glory would be known and praised.

I want to break our answer down for us tonight word by word so that we see the fullness of it. The first word we see in our answer is the word God. We must ask ourselves, who is God? That’s question 1 in our catechism and the answer is: God is the almighty Creator, Sustainer, and Ruler of everything. He is perfect, and the standard by which all things are measured. So we see that God is our perfect, almighty Creator. He is not just our Creator, but the Creator of all things. The first book of the Bible is titled Genesis. Genesis means origin, creation, or beginning. This is where we learn about God as Creator and read what He has created. So, what did God create? God created the heavens and the earth. On day one He created light. On day two He created the atmosphere—the sky. On day three He created dry land, seas, plants and trees. On day four He created the sun, the moon and stars. On day five He created all life that lives in the water and all the birds of the air. On day six He created all the creatures that live on dry land. In all of this we see God declare this work to be good.

The 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith says: In the beginning, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit was pleased to demonstrate the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness to create or make the world and everything in it, both visible and invisible, in six days.

Next, our catechism answer says, God made us. This brings us to the creation of man and woman on the sixth day which we see at the end of Genesis chapter 1 in verses 26 & 27.

Genesis 1:26a & 27 26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

In this passage we see some amazing truths and some much-needed clarities right off the bat. First, we see God speak in plural form. This is the first reference in Scripture for God being triune. We see elsewhere in Scripture more references to the Trinity. Here in Genesis, God doesn’t say, “Let me make man in my image, after my likeness.” No, He says, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” God is not speaking with the angels or anything else in creation. The creation cannot create itself. All of creation needs a Creator, and that Creator is God. So, if God is using plural language here to speak of Himself, and using the word “make” as in creating something, He must be saying that He is not singular. We have learned this in Q2 & Q3 already. Q2 asked, are there more gods than one? The answer was no. There is only one true God. Q3 asked, God exists eternally as how many persons?

The answer was God exists eternally as one God, three Persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit. Pastor Steve talked about being and personhood. If you missed that lesson, consider getting that link from your group leader or the elders. Genesis 1:26 is where we learn the Latin phrase, “Imago Dei.” This means that mankind was made in the image of God. Not only was mankind made in God’s image, but God created them male and female.

The 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith says this: After God made all other creatures, he created humanity. Humans were created male and female, with rational and immortal souls, which makes them able to live a life for God, which they were created to do. They were created in the image of God, with knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness. They were created with the law of God written in their hearts and the power to fulfill it. However, it was possible for them to disobey the law, since they were left to the liberty of their own will, which could change.

After God made mankind, creation was finished, and God said that it was very good. We see that God creating man was extra special. Mankind is the only creature made in His image. God didn’t stop in chapter 1 talking about His creation of man and woman. He goes on again in chapter 2 to go into more detail of how He created the first man and woman, Adam and Eve. The Bible says in many places that God’s creation will glorify Him. But there is something extra special about the worship and glory that God receives from mankind.

Revelation 4:11 “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

The KJV says… for thy pleasure they are and were created. John Gill said, “God is the first cause, and the last end of all things; by his power they are made, and according to his will, and for his own glory, and therefore (God) is worthy of such doxology.”

Isaiah 43:7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

God made us to glorify Him. We, mankind, were created to glorify God in a special way that only humans can. This glorification of God from mankind is different from the angels and all the rest of creation. Mankind, being made in the image of God, has a special relationship with God. This started on the sixth day and continued on the seventh when God rested. At this point everything was perfect as God said it was all very good. So, God created for His glory, and made us to glorify Him. Let’s pause for a second and define the terms glory and glorify. I think this will be helpful.

We learned in past weeks that the glory of God is His holiness, infinite beauty, and the greatness of His limitless perfection shining out to all of creation.

In God’s creating mankind, His glory was put on display in the creation, but more specifically in us.

The Hebrew word for glory means splendor, honor, and reputation. God’s glory can be seen in His creation. Psalm 19 declares this.

Psalm 19:1 ​The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Again, God made us to glorify Him. To glorify means to praise, to magnify and honor in worship. God made us to praise and worship Him, and in this He is glorified meaning He is honored. All over Scripture we see that God’s work in creation demands praise from mankind. When we wake up at sunrise just before the sun comes over the mountains, and we see the beautiful blue sky with pink and orange clouds over us, we see God’s glory on display, and it should cause us to worship Him and glorify Him. But this isn’t always the case. Not all of mankind worships the Creator and glorifies Him. Why? Genesis chapter 3. We see that Adam and Eve fell by disobeying God in the garden, and because of this sin entered the world. When sin entered the world, the perfection in the creation was replaced with corruption and curses. All of creation was now cursed, including mankind. Since the fall, all mankind has inherited a sin (corrupted) nature from Adam who is our federal head (or representative). Because of our sin nature, we look to glorify ourselves rather than glorify God. Everything has become about what mankind has accomplished or what mankind deserves. We are self-centered, selfish, and self-righteous. We think that we earn things, that everything belongs to us, and we try to make a name for ourselves. This happened back in Genesis with the tower of babel.

Genesis 11:4 Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves.

We use the words me, my and I a lot when we talk about our success, our lives, our income, and so much more. We say things like, “Look what I did” when we should be saying, “Look what God has done.” In sin we have put ourselves on the throne and not God. These are the teachings of the sinful, secular world. But, the Bible, the standard of truth, teaches that everything that you and I have comes from God. The air we breathe, the money in our wallet, the water we drink, the food we eat, it all comes from God. He can take it back at any moment and we would perish, the Bible says. God’s glory belongs to Him, and He will not give it to anyone else.

Isaiah 48:11 For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another.

So, while many deny God because they are dead in sin due to the fall of Adam and their own sin that they commit, God has made a way for people to be redeemed from sin. This is through the work of His perfect Son, Jesus Christ. Since the fall, God has been redeeming His people chosen in eternity past to once again glorify His name.

You may have heard of the five solas of the reformation before. If you haven’t, you will hear them taught at this church. One of the five solas is Soli Deo Gloria. This is Latin for God’s glory alone or to God alone be the glory.

This means that glory is God’s and His alone, not yours and not mine. The doctrine of soli deo gloria—glory to God alone—teaches that all glory is due to God alone and no other. This glory is due Him because from Him and through Him and to Him are all things, including our salvation. God created us for His glory and saved us for His glory. Soli deo gloria emphasizes that all things were created, live, move and have their being to glorify God. He will be glorified in all of creation. God is glorified in His righteous judgment on man. All that is done will ultimately be for God’s glory to the exclusion of man’s self-glorification and pride. God’s glory is the central motivation for the saving grace He chooses to give His people. God is not a means to an end; He is the means and the end. Jonathan Edwards said, “God is glorified not only by His glory being seen, but by its being rejoiced in.” Question 1 of the Westminster Shorter Catechism asks the question: What is the chief end of man? The answer is: Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever. Not all of mankind will enjoy God forever, but God is glorified in both those whom He has chosen to save and in those whom He has chosen to be condemned. God will be glorified in it all! We see this in Romans 9.

Romans 9:22-23 22 What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory.

Our answer continues…God made us to glorify Him, so His glory would be known and praised. Everything that exists, does so for the glory of God.

This is what the Bible, our standard of truth, teaches about God. The Bible is sufficient! It is all we need. The 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith says: Everything we need to know about God’s glory and our salvation, faith, and life is either explicitly stated in or necessarily inferred by the Bible. Nothing should ever be added to the Bible. The word of God teaches us a lot about His glory and what He does for His glory. Let me give you a quick tour of Scripture.

Exodus 14:4, 18 says that Pharaoh's heart was hardened for the glory of God.

Ezekiel 20:5-9 says that God did not destroy Israel in the desert for the sake of His name.

1 Samuel 12:19-23 says the beginning of the Israelites monarchy was about the glory of God.

2 Samuel 7:23 says Israel became great and powerful among the nations for the glory of God.

1 Kings 8:41-45 says Solomon dedicates the temple for the glory of God.

In Malachi 2:2, He decides to destroy Israel because they would not lay it in their hearts to give glory to His name.

John 4:34, 7:18, and 17:4 say that Jesus' life and ministry was about the glory of God.

John 12:27-28 says the Cross of Jesus is about the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31, 1 Peter 4:11, and Matthew 5:16 say that the Christian life is about the reflection of the glory of God off of our lives into the universe

In Psalm 23:3, it says, “*He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake*.”

2 Thessalonians 1:9-10 says the second coming is about the consummation of the glory of God.

Revelation 21:23 says the consummation of all things is that God might be praised.

Why did God make us? God made us to glorify Him, so His glory would be known and praised. God does all things so that His glory would be known and praised.

The 1689 Baptist Confession says: God works all things according to the counsel of his own unchangeable and completely righteous will for his own glory.

The apostle Paul writing to the church in Corinth said this in…

1 Corinthians 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Brothers and sisters, the command on us from God as His beloved saints is to live our lives unto the glory of God. So how do we do this? Let’s look at our next Word of Truth Catechism question and answer.

**Q16. How should we glorify God?**

We glorify God by trusting in Jesus, enjoying Him, treasuring Him, growing in our knowledge of Him, believing His words, obeying His commands, and by showing and telling the world how great He is.

I am going to break our answer down phrase by phrase so that we have a good, thorough understanding of each of these layers in how we glorify God. First, our answer says that “We glorify God by trusting in Jesus.” In order to trust in Jesus, we must first have saving faith in Him. We cannot trust in Jesus if we don’t belong to Him. We cannot trust in Jesus if we are still the lord of our own life. We cannot trust in Jesus is we are still a slave to sin. We must be given new life in Christ by the power and work of the Holy Spirit. This is essential to trusting in Jesus. We must trust our lives to Jesus, having saving faith in Him alone. Trusting in Jesus means believing in Him for salvation. We believe who He is and what He has done to save His people—that He died for our sins and rose from the dead proclaiming victory over both sin and death!

Hebrews 11:6 (NASB) …without faith it is impossible to please Him…

What is faith? According to Hebrews 11:1 faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

If you would like a more complete definition of faith with examples from Scripture, I’d encourage you to read the “faith hall of fame” located in Hebrews 11. To rightly worship and glorify God, we must have faith, a true saving knowledge of the one true God. What does it mean to trust someone? It means to place confidence in; to rely on. Trust is a reliance or resting of the mind on the integrity, justice, friendship or other sound principle of another person.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 7 “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. 8 He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

Trusting in Jesus is a reliance or resting of our mind on the integrity, justice, friendship or other sound principle of Jesus Christ, God the Son. Jesus, our perfect, sinless Lord and Savior is the ultimate person to trust in. There is no one higher or greater than Him!

Trusting in Jesus means committing ourselves entirely to Him—abiding in Him. As His followers, we put complete confidence in Him and His word. Trusting in Jesus means clinging to Jesus! Charles Spurgeon tells us how to cling to Jesus in his book, All of Grace: Spurgeon said, “Faith exists in different persons in various degrees, according to the amount of their knowledge or growth in grace. Sometimes faith is little more than a simple clinging to Christ; a sense of dependence and a willingness so to depend. When you are down at the seaside you will see limpets (a marine mollusk) sticking to the rock.

You walk with a soft tread up to the rock; you strike the mollusk a rapid blow with your walking-stick and off he comes. Try the next limpet in that way. You have given him warning; he heard the blow with which you struck his neighbor, and he clings with all his might. You will never get him off; not you! Strike, and strike again, but you may as soon break the rock. Our little friend, the limpet, does not know much, but he clings. He is not acquainted with the geological formation of the rock, but he clings. He can cling, and he has found something to cling to: this is all his stock of knowledge, and he uses it for his security and salvation. It is the limpet’s life to cling to the rock, and it is the sinner’s life to cling to Jesus. Thousands of God’s people have no more faith than this; they know enough to cling to Jesus with all their heart and soul, and this suffices for present peace and eternal safety. Jesus Christ is to them a Saviour strong and mighty, a Rock immovable and immutable; they cling to him for dear life, and this clinging saves them. Reader, cannot you cling? Do so at once.” Again, we glorify God by trusting in Jesus.

Next, our answer says that we glorify God by enjoying Him. To enjoy means to feel or perceive with pleasure; to take pleasure or satisfaction in the possession or experience of something or someone.

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Here the psalmist reminds us to delight in the triune God. We are to delight in the perfections of God, His power, and all His attributes that we have learned over these past few months. We are to delight in the works of God as we see Him save and sanctify His people.

We are to delight in the truths of His word and His gospel. Delight yourself in God, and in doing this, God will give you the desires of your heart which is Himself—communion with Him!

Sinclair Ferguson did an article in which he said that enjoying God is a command. Earlier in this lesson I mentioned Q1 in the Westminster Shorter Catechism. The answer stated that the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Where did they get this answer? From the Bible.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Hear the psalmist in Psalm 16:5-11 5 The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. 6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. 7 I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. 8 I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. 10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. 11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Why is it that we find it hard to enjoy God? The problem lies within our corrupted nature and sins. We try to find our joy in things other than God like our spouses, our money, physical or mental intimacy, good food, and all other types of created things, rather than the Creator Himself. C.S. Lewis said, “...it would seem that our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” May it not be so for the Christian! May we enjoy God above all created things first and foremost. This glorifies God! Don’t get me wrong, God has blessed us with many great things for us to enjoy like vacations, good food, and other things. But, if these things are enjoyed above our enjoyment of God, then we have missed the purpose of Gods’ grace in giving us these things to enjoy.

John Piper said, “God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.”

So, let me ask you, are you satisfied in God? Do you enjoy Him above all? If so, God is glorified in you. When we enjoy God, we will glorify Him with our lives. We glorify God by enjoying Him.

Next, our answer says that we glorify God by treasuring Him. To treasure someone means to greatly value them. They are your prized possession. To treasure Jesus is to regard or treat Him as precious to you, He is your prize. The apostle Paul showed us that Jesus was his prize in Philippians 3:8a Indeed, I count **everything as loss** because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

John Piper also spoke to this by saying this: “By treasuring Christ above all else so that everything else in his life is as nothing by comparison.

I count everything—money, as loss; food, as loss; beauty, as loss; friends, as loss; family, as loss; job and success, as loss; graduation, as loss in comparison with the treasure that Christ has become for me.”

Philippians 3:7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

Let me ask you, what do you treasure? I ask this because Jesus said that “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21

As Christians, we must ask ourselves: How much time do I spend scrolling social media, how much time do I spend practicing a hobby, or watching TV, or playing video games? Fill in the blank. In Christ, we have the freedom to enjoy these wonderful liberties that He has provided for us, but we must practice moderation and prioritization. Again, Jesus told us that where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. Brothers and sisters, we must seek THE true treasure, God Himself. I just love reading the Psalms. They are such an encouragement for me to see what treasuring God looks like. One of those places is Psalm 119. I won’t read the entire psalm since it’s 176 verses, but here are some snippets of God being treasured and delighted in.

Psalm 119:24 Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.

Psalm 119:47-48 47 for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love. 48 I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.

Psalm 119:92 If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

Psalm 119:174 I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

Here are some practical ways in which we can treasure Jesus:

1. Stewardship: This is managing your finances, your property, and your time in such a way that these things do not become your treasure, but Christ is treasured through your stewardship of these things. For example, I should never run out of time in a day to the point where I go to bed without having spent time in God’s word and in prayer. We cannot justify these things by saying that we ran out of time. God has given us all 24 hours a day. If we didn’t read our Bibles one day, it’s not that we ran out of time, rather we chose to make other things a priority over our time in the word. Remember, where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. If I treasure my money, my job will come before my time with God. For quick clarity, we will not prioritize our time in the word and prayer perfectly. This is a struggle for a lot of us. But we must fight this battle and glorify God. You might say to me, what if I had an emergency and could not do these things. Glad you asked.
2. Memorization: On days where things are going smooth, don’t just read your Bibles, practice memorization. In doing this, God’s word is with you always and when that emergency comes, you will have encouragement in your heart as you speak God’s word from memorization.
3. Spiritual Disciplines: Practice the spiritual disciplines like serving, apologetics, evangelism, discipleship, forgiveness, worship, confession & repentance, Sabbath, Bible study, prayer, accountability, fasting, silence and solitude, submission & humility, and purity. If you missed our Spiritual Disciplines Midweek series last year, ask your group leader for links to the teachings so that you may be blessed by them.

These are ways that you show the world around you that you treasure Jesus above all else, and in this God is glorified. Again, we glorify God by treasuring Him.

Next, our answer says that we glorify God by growing in our knowledge of Him. God delights in us knowing and understanding Him.

Jeremiah 9:24 (NKJV) “But let him who glories glory in this, that he **understands and knows Me**, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the Lord.

Let me ask, do you understand and know God? If we don’t understand and know Him, how then can we trust, enjoy and treasure Him? There are two ways we must know God. We must have a knowledge of Him through His word the Bible, a head knowledge. And we must know Him in our hearts, an abiding in Jesus where our desire is to be connected to Him now and for eternity. You must have both of these to know God truly. You can’t have head knowledge about God alone and truly know and understand Him.

You must belong to Him; your desire must be for Him and what pleases Him. We say it often, you can’t just know about God, you must know God. We must rightly know God. We cannot be flippant in our understanding of God. If we are flippant, then we will have bad theology, which in turn, leads to bad doxology. We don’t want to be flippant in our understanding of God, so how then can we grow in our knowledge of God? By reading His word—the Bible, by learning doctrinal truths in the historic confessions such as the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith, by memorizing questions and answers in the Word of Truth Catechism, and by being discipled by a more mature believer in Christ. I started my list with God’s word, the Bible. This is because it is only God’s written word that is authoritative. The confessions and catechisms are not authoritative. This is important to remember. While the confessions and catechisms are helpful, only God’s written word has authority. In fact, the historic 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith says this: By this faith, Christians believe to be true whatever is revealed in the Word as having the authority of God himself. They also recognize an excellency in the Word above all other writings and all things in the world, since it teaches the glory of God in his attributes, the excellency of Christ in his nature and offices, and the power and fullness of the Holy Spirit in his workings and operations. Faith enables them to entrust their souls to this truth that they believe. The confession also states this: The Bible is the only sufficient, certain, and infallible standard of all saving knowledge, faith, and obedience.

In the Apostle Peter’s instruction to believers, he tells us this…

2 Peter 3:18 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

So again, we glorify God by growing in our knowledge of Him.

Next, our answer states that we glorify God by believing His words. Christians are to believe the words of Christ. We must understand that the Word of God—the Bible—is indeed God’s very own word spoken.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:20-21 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Because the Bible is God’s word, it is living and active. Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Church, we must believe His words. In theology, to believe sometimes expresses a mere assent of the understanding to the truths of the gospel. In other studies, the word implies, with this assent of the mind, a yielding of the will and affections, accompanied with a humble reliance on Christ for salvation. Sometimes in sin, doubt, or suffering, we choose not to believe His words.

We must fight this and lean not on our own understanding but have a humble reliance upon Christ and His words. We glorify God by believing His words.

Next, our answer states that we glorify God by obeying His commands. We must not be hearers only, but doers of the Word. It’s not enough to just believe God’s words, we must obey what is commanded of us.

Deuteronomy 11:1 “You shall therefore love the LORD your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

Where do we find God’s commandments? In His word, the Bible. How we are to live is written for us in Scripture. We don’t have to guess what God commands of His children. Question is, are we being obedient to what He has commanded of us? Jesus said in John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Our obedience to God must not be for the sake of being a rule keeper for our own self-glory, rather, our obedience to God should be out of a true desire to glorify Him and show reverence to Him. If you belong to God, then He is doing a mighty work in you to sanctify you and grow you in holiness to conform to Christ’s image.

True obedience is an obedience that comes out of a made-new heart and life that seeks to glorify God, abides in Christ, and is being transformed by the Spirit’s sanctifying power. False obedience is an obedience that obeys by making external modifications, but there are no true internal changes of the heart present and therefore it isn’t lasting or glorifying to God. Brother and sister, look to God’s word for what He commands of you and glorify God by obeying His commands.

Lastly, our answer states that we glorify God by showing and telling the world how great He is. There are two things mentioned here, showing and telling. We show the world how great God is as he progressively sanctifies us, and we tell the world how great He is through evangelism. Progressive sanctification is growing in holiness through obedience to the Lordship of Jesus and His word from a right heart. By grace, it is a lifelong process powered by the Holy Spirit to change believers to become more like Christ. In our sanctification, the power of God is at work to change us from our former state to our made-new in Christ state. As God works in and through us, the world around us sees it and in this we are showing the world just how powerful and great God is. We show the world how great God is by our honoring of Him in all things. This means at work or at school, this means in our interaction with our unbelieving co-workers and friends, and so forth. Let’s put God on display as we go about our days. We tell the world how great He is in evangelism. Evangelism is the promulgation (or proclamation) of the gospel. We tell the world how great Jesus is and what He has done!

We share His gospel, which is the good news of the grace and power of God to redeem undeserving sinners to eternal life through Jesus’ perfect, sinless life; substitutional, sacrificial death; and victorious resurrection from the grave. We tell them that sinners are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus alone from the eternal wrath they deserved, and they are reconciled into an eternally secure relationship with God. Look how the Apostle Paul did it with the Corinthian church. To close, turn in your Bibles to…

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 ​1 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

We glorify God by showing and telling the world how great He is.

**Conclusion:**

In closing, let me read our questions and answers one more time before we head to group.

**Q15. Why did God make us?**

God made us to glorify Him, so His glory would be known and praised.

**Q16. How should we glorify God?**

We glorify God by trusting in Jesus, enjoying Him, treasuring Him, growing in our knowledge of Him, believing His words, obeying His commands, and by showing and telling the world how great He is.

Church, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Let’s Pray.