



Group Leader Guide - Week 2

Sermon Recap

Josh reflected on the rich history of the church, emphasizing that its mission has always been to connect people back to God, stemming from a vision as far back as 1895. He encouraged the congregation to recognize the sacrifices made by previous generations for the church's establishment and growth, highlighting that being part of this community is a result of their sacrifices. Josh called upon followers to embrace sacrificial giving, illustrating how true generosity requires faith and involves actively leveraging our lives for the rescue mission of Jesus. Ultimately, he invited everyone to take a step in generosity, reminding them that together, they can make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

Ice Breaker

What is one way you have experienced or witnessed the impact of someone else's sacrifice in your life? Did it inspire you to give or serve in return?

Discussion Questions

- ▶ Why do you think the church has a history of change, and what does that teach us about applying our faith in different ways to reach others?
- ▶ What does it mean to say we are sitting in someone else's sacrifice at our church?

Read Scripture

1 Chronicles 29:1-19 NIV

Then King David said to the whole assembly: "My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the Lord God.² With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities.³ Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple:⁴ three thousand talents of gold (gold of Ophir) and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for the overlaying of the walls of the buildings,⁵ for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen. Now, who is willing to consecrate themselves to the Lord today?"

⁶ Then the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king's work gave willingly.⁷ They gave toward the work on the temple of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze and a hundred thousand talents of iron.⁸ Anyone who had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the temple of the Lord in the custody of Jehiel the Gershonite.⁹ The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

¹⁰ David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

"Praise be to you, Lord,
the God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

¹¹ Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, Lord, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.

¹² Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power

to exalt and give strength to all.

¹³ Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴ “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. ¹⁵ We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. ¹⁶ Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. ¹⁷ I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. ¹⁸ Lord, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you. ¹⁹ And give my son Solomon the wholehearted devotion to keep your commands, statutes and decrees and to do everything to build the palatial structure for which I have provided.”

Discussion Questions

- ▶ How does the story of David illustrate the challenges and rewards of trusting God, especially in the area of resources and provision?
- ▶ Josh discussed the concept of eternal life starting in this life. Reflect on the statement, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." How do you know what it is that you treasure most? If I were to ask your spouse or your best friend or your family, where would they say your treasure is?
- ▶ Sacrifice, by definition, has to cost us something or it's not really sacrifice. How do you think sacrifice affects our relationship with God?

Prayer

- Ask God to help us remember the sacrifices made by those who came before us.
- Ask God for strength to continue the mission of connecting people back to Him.
- Pray for guidance in how to apply the message of sacrifice in our daily lives.
- Lift up any prayer requests from the group and ask for God's provision and healing.

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