



Glorifying God

(John 17)

Choosing Jesus

- C** — Choosing Jesus
- H** — Holding to His Word
- O** — Obeying His Commands
- O** — Opening Your Life to Community
- S** — Serving the Kingdom
- I** — Investing in Others
- N** — Nurturing Faithfulness
- G** — Glorifying God

● **QUESTION:** What is the most important thing to God?

From the beginning of time to the end of time, from the beginning of Scripture in Genesis to its end in Revelation, God's chief concern above all other things is His glory. It is for God's glory that the earth and all of creation came into being; it was for God's glory that He chose for His only Son to die on the cross. In every action and thought of God, His utmost purpose is to glorify Himself.

The ultimate mission of true disciples of Jesus is to glorify God. As followers and worshipers of God, we are a testimony of God's glory to the world. Since God's glory is His chief concern, believers should pursue life understanding that this is our ultimate mission. God's purpose in everything is that we glorify His name in all that we are and do.

● **STORY:** The Tower of Babel

(Genesis 11:4) - "let us make a name for ourselves."

The world is about making a name for themselves.
God calls us to glorify His name, not ours
(He will not share His glory with another)

◆ Introduction

This is the eighth lesson in our Jesus Journey series.

G - Glorifying God

Choose to live a life that glorifies God, pointing others to Him in everything you do.

What is God's Glory?

- His awesomeness, His greatness, His wow-ness
- John Piper (Desiring God) —

The term "*glory of God*" in the Bible generally refers to the visible splendor or moral beauty of God's manifold perfections. It is an attempt to put into words what cannot be contained in words — what God is like in his unveiled magnificence and excellence.

Another term which can signify much the same thing is "*the name of God*." When Scripture speaks of doing something "for God's name's sake" it means virtually the same as doing it "for his glory." The "name" of God is not merely his label, but a reference to his character. The term "glory" simply makes more explicit that the character of God is indeed magnificent and excellent. This is implicit in the term "name" when it refers to God. [for God's glory, or for God's name's sake]

What Does it Mean to Glorify God?

- *Glorify* means — To honor, exalt, praise, and worship God by recognizing and proclaiming His majesty, holiness, and supreme authority. It involves acknowledging God's worth and reflecting His character through words and actions.
- Piper - "God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him"
Westminster Confession: *The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.*
- To glorify God — to live in a way that shows He is your greatest treasure.
(If this is so, we'll do all that we've learned through the Jesus Journey series - Choose Jesus, Hold to His Word, Obey Him, Open ourselves to His Community, Serve His Kingdom, Invest in Others, Nurture Faithfulness...)

The Arena of God's Glory (Physical World & Spiritual World)

- (Ephesians 3:8–10) — To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ *so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.*
- (1 Corinthians 4:9) — For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a *spectacle* to the world, *to angels*, and to men.
- (Hebrews 12:1) — Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great *a cloud of witnesses*, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
- (Luke 15:10) — Just so, I tell you, there is joy before *the angels* of God over one sinner who repents.”

God's Passion is for His Glory

- Throughout our passage today, it's evident His glory is at the top of His mind

(John 17)



#1 — God’s Glory Requires Absolute Surrender

(Verse 1) —

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, *the hour has come*; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you...

The Hour Has Come

- Jesus calls us to complete surrender — (John 12:23–26) — And Jesus answered them, “*The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.* ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, *he must follow me*; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.
- Jesus obedience is our model — (Philippians 2:5–8) — *Have this mind among yourselves*, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming *obedient to the point of death*, even death on a cross.
- The path of glory (for Jesus) was the path of crucifixion. And He says *take up your cross and follow me.*

● **QUESTION:** Are you willing to be obedient to the point of death?

◆ #2 — God’s Glory Should be Our Passion

(Verse 17:9-11) —

I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and *I am glorified in them*. ¹¹ And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, *keep them in your name*, which you have given me, *that they may be one, even as we are one*.

Jesus Hands off His Mission to the Disciples (and to us)

- (Vs 11) - *“I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world.”* — Jesus handed off His mission to the Disciples (The Great Commission), and they have passed it down to us. Jesus passion became their passion, and it should become our passion.
- (Vs 11) - *“Keep them in Your name”* — In Your glory (devoted to and for Your glory)
- (Vs 11) - *“That they may be one, even as we are one.”* — The Father and Son were united in passion - His glory. And he wanted the Disciples (and us) united in the same passion.

● What does the Bible say about passion for God’s glory?

HIS GLORY SHOULD BE OUR HEART’S DESIRE

- (Isaiah 26:8, NIV) — Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; *your name and renown* are the desire of our hearts.
[*Your glory and Your fame*]

HIS GLORY SHOULD BE THE GOAL IN ALL WE ARE AND DO

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

● ILLUSTR: MOSES PASSION FOR GOD’S GLORY ...

- Moses approaches the burning bush — (Exodus 3:6) — And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And *Moses hid his face*, for he was afraid to look at God.
- After interceding for the people urging God to go with them... (Exodus 33:17–18) — And the Lord said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”¹⁸ Moses said, “*Please show me your glory.*”

◆ #3 — God’s Glory is Kept with His Word

(Verse 13-19) —

But now I am coming to you, and these things I *speak* in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them *your word*, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you *keep them* from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ *Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.* ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ and for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be *sanctified in the truth.*

The Word gives us Joy in Jesus

- (Vs 13) - *These things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy...*

The Word Separates us from the World

- (Vs 14) - *I have given them your word, and the world has hated them... —* If you live by the Word of God, the world will hate you
- (Vs 15) - *I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one —* The Word helps protect us in our Spiritual Battle

● **QUESTION:** How did Jesus fight against satan? (The Word - Matt. 4)

The Word Consecrates us to God

- (Vs 17) - *Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth —*
- *Sanctify* — The Greek word for “sanctify” means: To make holy, consecrate, set apart for God’s purposes. It carries both the idea of being *purified* and being *dedicated*.

● **NOTE:** We are dedicated for God’s purposes (Serve the Kingdom)
And we are purified (made more and more like Jesus)

◆ #4 — God’s Glory Multiplies

(Verse 20-21) —

I do not ask for these only, but also *for those who will believe in me through their word*, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that *the world may believe* that you have sent me.

It is expected that the Disciples will reproduce

- (Vs 20) - *Those who will believe in me through their word* —
- Jesus fully expects the Disciples to share the Word and others will believe

Being united with Jesus and His Mission, the World will believe

- (Vs 21) - *...that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.*
- Jesus passion for His glory requires and expects multiplication
- Likewise, Jesus passion for His glory requires our unity in this mission

● **NOTE:** The baton has been handed down to us

Jesus heart was to “invest in” His Disciples

- This passage is a prayer for His disciples — Jesus is modeling the Disciple-maker’s heart, mission, and goal.

◆ #5 — God's Glory Brings Unity

(Verse 22-23) —

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be *one even as we are one*, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become *perfectly one*, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

How can we be "Perfectly One"

- United in our passion for God's glory — (Vs 11) - *keep them in your name...* —
- United in the Word of God — (vs 20) - *I do not ask for these only, but for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one...*

● **NOTE:** When there is disunity, it grieves the Holy Spirit and harms the mission.

● What does the Bible say about Unity?

IT IS A SWEET AROMA AND THE PATH OF BLESSING

- (Psalm 133) — Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! ² It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! ³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For *there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.*

IT'S ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

- (Ephesians 4:11–13) — And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to *equip* the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ *until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God*, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...
- (1 Corinthians 1:10) — I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you *agree*, and that there be *no divisions among you*, but that you be *united* in the same mind and the same judgment.

◆ #6 — God’s Glory is Grounded in Love

(Verse 24-26) —

Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me *because you loved me* before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, *that the love with which you have loved me may be in them*, and I in them.”

The Father and the Son — Share Perfect Unity & Perfect Love

- (John 3:35) — The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand.
- (John 5:20) — For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing...
- (John 10:17) — For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.
- (John 15:9) — As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. *Abide in my love.*

Walking in Love is proof we know Jesus

- (1 John 4:8) — Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- (1 John 4:20) — If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.
- **NOTE:** The Son glorifies the Father, because He loves Him. The Father glorifies the Son, because He loves Him. We glorify Jesus because we love Him.
- **NOTE:** Jesus poured out His life for us in obedience to the Father, because He loves the Father. And we are called to pour ourselves out for Jesus, because we love Him, so that He might be glorified.

◆ Closing

What is your passion in life?

Is your desire to make a name for yourself, or to make Jesus name great?

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G - Glorifying God

Choose to live a life that glorifies God, pointing others to Him in everything you do.

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● QUESTIONS:

- If someone were to make an assessment of your day to day life, are you diligently seeking to glorify God?
- What changes needed to take place in your life right now to move in the direction that God wants for you?