

# *Mt. Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church*

Teaching Ministry

1.4.2026

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Jesus Only

## **Matthew 17: 5 – 8**

As believers, when we look into the word of God what do we see. Man will say that God gives unto us a glimpse of his sovereign power through his word. From creation to the new heaven and new earth God has encouraged mankind by his inspired word, which he gave unto his prophets, pointing unto us the way of salvation. Others testify that his word reveals our true self, not just our flaws, but also our potential, and our God given identity, which prompts self-examination in our life and transforms us into becoming more like Christ. It reflects our need for grace and shows unto us the areas in our life that require spiritual growth. But there is one thing that we need to see before anything else can take place in our life. We need to see Jesus. So, what do I mean by that. John recognized the word as Christ, and he recognized Christ as the Son of God, who from the beginning lived every moment of this glorious inspiration, which he gave unto the prophets to record. This means that every time we look into the word of God, Christ has a specific purpose in mind, for he is the living example of that purpose, which was intended for us before the foundation of the world. Therefore, in order for us to find our purpose, in order for us to see Christ and his will, we must, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, passionately position ourselves within the boundaries of Gods word. We must become a living testimony for God.

**1 Corinthians 1: 12,....**our rejoicing is this....the testimony of our conscience....and godly sincerity....by the grace of God....we have....our conversation....

**Matthew 17: 5 – 8**,....this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased, hear him....Jesus came....and said....arise, and be not afraid....when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only....

By his mercy, God has established his Son Christ Jesus as the ultimate focus of faith in our life, when he, according to his will, demanded our total attention and obedience to the commandments of his word, and we, by choosing to accept allowed him to signify his saving grace in our life. Now, for this reason, we are not to see or acknowledge the works of man, but we are to see Jesus only. So, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we experience the presence of Christ in our life, which leads to a personal transformation where we demonstrate the characteristics of his love in our service unto others, all the while glorifying him. Our life in Christ is all about experiencing his divine faith, embodying his love and his service, and making our every action a reflection of his life, and becoming a living representation of him unto the world.

**Jeremiah 29: 13**,....You will seek me and find me, when you search for me with your whole heart....

If we have a genuine willing desire to see Jesus, then God, through his spirit will lead us in finding him. This comes according to his promise of a restored relationship, and an eternal hope which reveals unto us the presence of his truths, and even in the midst of life's challenges we can remain focused on our pathway of his abundant life. So, God encourages us as believers to live normal lives, placing our confidence in his righteousness, and fulfilling his plan for us, a plan that includes following after the blessings of his unconditional promises that only he can provide by his grace, through faith in Christ Jesus. So, when we pursue Christ, we will find his abundant life. For God bestows his favor upon us, granting unto us his presence, his grace, his mercy, and through the guidance and the influence of the Holy Spirit we will gain the spiritual desires needed in our life, with all sincerity, and by our humility we will experience his salvation that leads to eternal life.

**John 17:3**,....And this is eternal life, that they ( We ) may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent....

This is to be understood as the simple grace of God, the pardoning sin, to all who will believe in Christ and trust in the cross, which was the sacrifice for our salvation, so that we might see and experience Christ and him only in our life. So, what does this mean to us right now in our life, it means that eternal life is not just about living forever, but it is about coming into his wisdom and knowledge that is transforming our lives into a growing trust, which leads us into a greater personal relationship with him. For this reason, we can now live a quality of life that is characterized by the joy, peace, and fulfillment that can only be found in God. Our eternal life began when by faith believing we accepted God's saving grace and now has become a continuous process of seeking and obeying him through his word by his spirit.

**Romans 10:13**,....For whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved....

So, here is a truth that all mankind must come to know. No one will ever understand the word of God until we truly see Christ as the word of God, and without salvation, seeing Christ as the word of God is impossible. So, here is what needs to happen in our life as a believer, our focus must shift from just seeing and reading the words that are written, and we need to see and experience the living Christ who is the ultimate meaning of the entirety of God's word.

**John 6: 51**,....I am the living bread which came down from heaven....

So, Christ is the ultimate source of life, and by his spirit he functions within us through his written word, transforming our understanding of how to live our life to its fullest potential in the hope of our eternal life with God. Therefore, our obedience to the commandments and promises of his word is an expression of his life and his will for us coming forth as an example unto others.

**Proverbs 3:7**,....Do not be wise in your own eyes, fear the Lord and depart from evil....

So, what is it that mankind searches for in life, we search for peace of mind. But most do not live in a peaceful state of mind, we tend to bring stressful situations upon ourselves, and we do not recognize the how, nor do we understand why we did it. Therefore, God puts a desire within us not just to come to know his saving grace but to willingly seek to understand his salvation, but worldliness blocks our vision and affects our spiritual wellbeing. So, through the word we learn to turn from worldliness, and pursue after godliness, so that we might live peaceably in Christ. So, we must acknowledge that our understanding is limited compared to God's infinite wisdom. To overcome this, we must separate ourselves from anything that hinders our relationship with God.

**2 Timothy 2: 21 - 22**,....if a man therefore purge himself....he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified....prepared unto every good work....flee youthful lusts, pursue righteousness....

So, as believers, are we willing and ready for whatever service God calls unto us to be and are we ready and available for his divine service of good works. As part of the family of God we are set apart and made holy for his special purpose, we are enabled by the Holy Spirit, therefore we have a usefulness and a spiritual value in Gods eyes. This means that we have peace of mind when we pursue and follow after him with a sincere heart. Faithful servants of God draw near to him with a true heart, and we call upon him with sincerity so that we might maintain a devoted relationship with him. So, it all comes down to this as we study, pray, and meditate on the word of God.

**Hebrews 2:9**,....but we see Jesus....crowned with glory and honor....he by the grace of God should taste death for every man....

Now, not with our physical eyes, but with our spiritual eyes do we see the living Christ, and through our understanding of God's word we now see the one who gave himself for all of mankind, so that we would not be ashamed to declare the name of the Lord and take part in his body and his blood, by accepting, through faith, the free gift of his salvation by the grace which God himself freely gives. So, we recognize him as a visible God, now made visible unto us by his living word. Therefore, we look past our physical sight, so that we might experience his power through our obedience, making him the constant focus of our life.

**1 Peter 1: 18 -21**,....you were not redeemed with corruptible things....but, with the precious blood of Christ....

So, what is the secret to living for God and staying faithful to him, there is no secret at all. It is just simply continuing in a personal relationship with him, where we see nothing but Jesus only. Christ was not just a messenger of salvation, but he was Gods ultimate self-expression of the one who offered unto all of mankind a living relationship that is filled with hope. The written word points to Christ who is the living word, which is active, and powerful, and transforms lives. Therefore, as believers, we declare that our faith in God is inseparable from our faith in Christ, for Christ was and is the embodiment of Gods eternal message and power, and we see only him in our life.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

*Tim Hughes*

304.376.3177 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

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