

Worshipping God by Listening to Him Speak

Gospel Reading: John 3:16, 11:25, 18:1-11 (p. 752)

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16 (p. 828)

Gospel Lesson Text: John 20:30-31, 21:15-25 (p. 769)

Leader: The Word of the Lord! Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Lesson: “Christianity is Not About Me?”

1. Know that the Gospels don’t contain _____ I _____ possibly know about what Jesus did and taught (21:24-25, 20:30).
2. Know that the Gospels contain everything I _____ to know from what Jesus did and taught that _____ me about _____ life and about _____ my life on earth to _____ glory (20:31, 10:10, 2 Peter 1:3).
3. Christianity and my faith and life are really about _____, and about _____ Jesus (15-17).
 - a. Again, _____ is central to Christianity.
 - 1) If we _____ Jesus, Christianity _____ (1 Corinthians 15:14).
 - 2) Christianity is not a _____, a life system, a _____ of conduct, nor a _____ to reach some kind of peace or nirvana (Colossians 2:8).
 - 3) Christianity, as Jesus emphasizes here, is about _____, and _____ Him (15-17).
 - b. Jesus is _____ talking about love as defined by people in the _____ today, that is:
Not “love” in the sense of being infatuated, enamored, and tingly, with my heart _____ every time I think of Jesus.
 - c. Jesus is talking about a love that involves _____ and _____ to Him as a person and as God (who has personality and loves His people) (Matthew 26:31-33, John 18:1-11, Ephesians 1:4-5).
 - d. And it’s a love that has loyal, affectionate _____ (14:21, 23, 21:19).
 - 1) This isn’t _____ obedience to Jesus (or He doesn’t love you back, “benches” you, or gives you the _____ shoulder)

(1 Peter 2:24, John 18:11).

- 2) It’s not a love that _____ me and _____ my salvation and God’s _____ for me (3:16, 1 John 4:9-10, 18-19).
4. Christianity is about Jesus and about loving Him more than _____ life (16-19, 12:25).
 - a. Remember that for those who _____ in Jesus for eternal life, _____ is not a _____; the believer _____ after death (3:16, Philippians 1:21-25, 2 Corinthians 5:8, Hebrews 2:15, Acts 7:54-60, John 11:25).
 - b. Realize that no life in _____ era compares to the life _____ (Romans 8:18).
5. Christianity is about Jesus & about loving Him more than _____ life (15, 18).
 - a. The Christian’s (my) life gets rightly _____-centered.
 - 1) How I _____ (what I “wear”) (18).
 - 2) And what I _____ (where I “go”) (15-17, 18) . . .
 - 3) Now it’s centered around _____ and His _____ (15-19, Matthew 6:33).
 - 4) It’s my realizing that it’s not about how _____ and the Church fit into _____ life, but about how I fit into what _____ is doing in the world—about how I fit into _____ kingdom, the Church—(not the other way _____).
 - b. _____ life’s fitting into Christ’s kingdom and Christ’s purposes will look _____ than how that is so with _____ Christians (20-23, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4:11-16).

Summary: Christianity is about _____, and about _____ Him even more than _____ itself.

This loving of Jesus re-_____ my life from seeking His fitting into _____ kingdom into my fitting into _____.

And the service and effort _____ give to Christ’s kingdom will be _____ than that of _____’.

Worshipping God by Singing: “I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”

Benediction: Lamentations 3:25.