



WHO GETS THE GLORY?

My hope and prayer for each of you has been that you will grow in your faith as well as your baseball this summer. As this is our last week playing this summer, I want to remind each of us of something very important, God should get all the glory for what has happened with our faith and with our baseball this summer. Take every opportunity you are given to talk about God's goodness and what He has done for you this summer.

This week's study is a simple reminder that not only does God get the glory, but everything we do we should do it for Him!

Sunday: Read Jude 24-25

Scholars tend to believe that Jude was a younger brother of Jesus. His message is to stay away from the influence of Godless men and to persevere in the faith. The verses we read today are a doxology that reminds us of the greatness of God.

1. **How can Christ keep us from falling and present us to God without fault?**
2. **When should god get the glory through Christ?**
3. **How are ways on and off the field to give glory to God?**

Monday: Read Psalm 96:1-9

The Psalmist is so overcome by the greatness of God he cannot contain himself. This is a Psalm of pure joy and adoration. As we read this passage may we be reminded of the awesome greatness of God!!

1. **What are we told to do in verses 1-3?**
2. **Describe ways you have seen the greatness of God in your life.**

3. **What should we give (ascribe) to the Lord?**
4. **When we give God his due from us it translates into worship. How can we worship this way on and off the field?**

Tuesday: Read John 12:37-43

When we read these words from John it is hard for us to believe that the Jews would not believe in Christ. They got to see firsthand his miracles and to hear Him teach. John quotes Isaiah 53:1 and 6:10 in describing why they did not believe. Pay close attention to verse 43.

1. **How can we not fall into the trap of being blind and deaf to the glory of Christ?**
2. **Why is it important to confess and live our faith publically both on and off the field? Why did some who believed never make it public?**
3. **What is more important to us, praise from men or praise from God? Why?**
4. **May we always guard ourselves from being blinded to God and seeking praise from man.**

Wednesday: Read Luke 2:8-20

This week's major lesson is a familiar one to us all. I wonder if you are asking yourself what does the Christmas story have to do with helping us grow closer to God while playing summer baseball? Let's review the story together.

Shepherds were not very highly thought of in Jesus day. Their profession was one that parents would not have been happy to hear was chosen. Shepherds on Christmas night were doing what shepherds did, they were watching their sheep. God chose to bring the news of the birth of the Savior to the shepherds by an angel. When the angel appeared to them they were terrified. Notice how many times in Scripture the first thing an angel has to say is "do not be afraid". The angel tells them of the birth of the Savior in Bethlehem. They were even told how to find him. Then a heavenly chorus burst forth with the praise found in verse 14.

As soon as the angel left, the shepherds decided to go into town to see the thing that had happened. I love in verse 16 how the Bible says they hurried off. I bet they ran every step of the way. If an angel tells us great news and a chorus sings praises to God, I believe that would make me want to go and see for myself. When the shepherds got to Jesus, they told Mary and Joseph all about their encounter with the angel. The shepherds went back to the sheep praising God for

all they had seen and heard!! Take a minute and think right now what it would have been like to be one of those shepherds....

- 1. What is the “good news” the shepherds heard? Is it the same good news for the world today?**
- 2. The heavenly host could not be quiet they had to praise God. Why should we do the same today?**
- 3. What are some of the things we have seen and heard this summer to show us God’s greatness and love?**
- 4. How can we praise Him on and off the field?**

Thursday: Read Hebrews 13:15-16

The writer of Hebrews gives us some great advice about praising God. May we read these words and let them grow within us. Reread these verses 3 times before answering the questions and ask God to speak to each of us what He desires from us.

- 1. How often should we offer God a sacrifice of praise?**
- 2. What does it mean to confess His name on and off the field?**
- 3. According to these verses, what pleases God? How can we do that as we play and when we are off the field?**

Friday: Read 1Chronicles 16:23-25

These verses are from a larger Psalm of praise of David after the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Jerusalem. In this Psalm, David is so overcome by the ark coming to Jerusalem he cannot contain his praise and thanksgiving to God. Pay special attention to the verbs of this passage.

- 1. What are we to proclaim?**

2. What are we to declare?

3. How can we proclaim and declare what God would have us to do on and off the field?

Saturday: Read 1Corinthians 10:31

Paul is reminding the Corinthians to do whatever they do all for the glory of God. It is like we are to do everything we do for an audience of one...God!

1. Imagine this day God is with you in whatever you do, watching you do it for that is exactly what He is doing.

2. What does it mean to you to do everything for God's glory?

3. Is it easier to do what we do for man's glory or God's? Why?