

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016 – Jinny Yoon**

**Who is a true worshipper?**

**Mark 12: 28 - 34**

**The Greatest Commandment**

(Deuteronomy 6:1-19; Matthew 22:34-40)

**28**Now one of the scribes had come up and heard their debate. Noticing how well Jesus had answered them, he asked Him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?”

**29**Jesus replied, “This is the most important: ‘Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is One Lord, **30**and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. **31**The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these.”

**32**“Right, Teacher,” the scribe replied. “You have stated correctly that God is One and there is no other but Him, **33**and to love Him with all your heart and with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, which is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

**34**When Jesus saw that the man had answered wisely, He said, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.”

And no one dared to question Him any further.

Good morning everyone, today I want to share something that is not a new thing. We probably heard it for many times in the past, and I want to take this morning as an opportunity to just to remind ourselves and hopefully be challenged (again!) by the end of the service today.

As we shared about ‘what is worship’ earlier on, then who is a true worshipper?  
The people who are glorifying God: Ok, then HOW? WHERE? AND WHEN?  
And what makes people, who are a Christian to become a true worshipper?

What do we do in worship time? It is not a single, repetitive action but more of complex activity - we don’t just sing one theme to praise God. We thank Him, we love Him, we adore Him, and we confess (that means say sorry) to God and say we will live for Him. We don’t just do one action to praise God, we don’t sense God through a single feeling either: sometimes we laugh, sometimes we cry or we do both during the worship time. And we don’t always in a good mood nor in a good situation to worship him.

Ok, the things that I have just mentioned, majority of us will straight to draw a picture of Sunday morning in the church in our minds. Well, people live in the place like the Lodge will add few other pictures of their daily or monthly worship time.

But is the worship really a 'SUNDAY THING'? Yes, BUT only for partly to fulfil the answer. It should be a daily routine, NO, hourly routine, NO, every second, every moment that we live on this earth. Sounds quite hard to be a worshipper in real then.

However, to be a true worshiper is not as complicate as we think. It is rather easy but we human are still wicked, selfish, greedy, self-centred etc therefore we think it is hard to be always joyful to worship our Father.

<HOW>

Then HOW to become a true worshipper in God? Remember 3 things!

### 1. THANK GOD

THANK GOD (it's Friday)! Not a T.G.I restaurant title. YES, THANK GOD! That is the first thing you can do to become a true worshiper.

We often make a 'Thank God list' along with what he has given, and how much he has given in materialistic way. I think that is not the right way to thank God. Thank God for everything means, literally everything that we have, not just money and properties. Do you know we are very blessed to have 1 nose, 1 mouth, 2 eyes, 2 ears, 10 fingers, 10 toes etc.? It is so natural that we don't really thanks God for it. What about voice? We can't talk and we can't make sound if we lost our voice. How about the family and friends that God has given? Do we appreciate them a lot? Do we thank God for the church that He has given to us to serve? Oh! Lots of things to re-think about. Ha!

T.G.I still applies to us - but not just for Friday, put every day! Sunday.. Monday.. Saturday!

### 2. LOVE GOD, and LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

We think, love God can be easier than love our neighbours. Because God is invisible and we think He doesn't expect a lot from us. He is never telling us off in front of our face, He is just loving, forever understanding God, kind our Father (well, we want to think like that). But that's not true! God is telling us what to do to please Him, the one that Fiona read earlier: The greatest commandment. God wants us to obey His commandment and when you keep His rule that is one of the way to show love God and respect Him from us. And it is amazing fact that when you please God, you naturally please your neighbour too as God is righteous. Both goes together!

One of the hardest thing for us to do but would please God a lot will be watch out our mouth. God hates gossip, but we are so good at doing it. But we don't always have enough time to do good things like love one another, so there shouldn't be a spare time to gossip others and judging others.

Another thing that we are so good at is indifferent others (For children: indifferent means we do less care about others and even ignoring other people when we can help them). And it is very natural thing in modern society, no matter whether you are in western country, eastern country or any parts in the world. And we are convincing ourselves and try to be relived from the guilty of indifferent others by saying we are respecting others' privacy and their individuality. If it's so true and right thing to do, then why there are so many people outside church (and of course even in church) feel so lonely and depressed? So many are suffering because of the loneliness and indifferent from others. This shows that we are lacking of giving love to others. And when I said we, it's not just for Christians, everyone in nowadays.

Paul says in **Galatians 5:13-15**:

**13**You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. **14**For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbour as yourself. **15**If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

What a challenging but just so right verse for us to share.

### 3. DON'T BE LAZY

We are so busy with so many different things happen in our lives.

We think we work hard because we don't rest much and we keep move around. But in God's eyes, the busiest person in the world might not be the faithful servant. Perhaps, he might be the laziest person in front of God with his measurement. As the bible says a lot, God likes the faithful servant. So who is God's hard-working, faithful servant? In gospel, Jesus gave us a good example of a faithful servant and the wicked one through "The parable of the talents" in Matthew 25: 14-30 and Luke 19:11-27. And God's standard is rather very simple. It doesn't just mean that how much time we spend to work. It also involves with our mind set and attitude towards God. How much do we actually think of God and try to please him?

Just working hard would not please God, but sit still in our comfort zone and just think about God all day would not please God either, He will treat that person as a lazy person actually.

Work hard in God, use your time wisely with God's wisdom and be ready for God's time and His calling.

<WHEN & WHERE>

So! WHEN and WHERE? The answer is so simple and so easy. ANYTIME! ANYWHERE!

Remember, spend time in the church on Sunday is NOT only a place and a time to worship God. Happy clappy worship is not the ONLY way to worship God. But of course, being in church on Sunday and enjoy our worship time and take the part of the service is VERY VERY important part in our life of faith. I am not despise it at all. It is rather very special but also a basic and obvious thing to do as a Christian.

God is eternal but we human are not. We have given the time which is limited and will end soon but we don't know when, like it says in the bible when the day and hour is unknown like in Noah's time and Jesus says in the gospel: Genesis 6: 1-7, Matthew 24:42-51, Mark 13: 34-37, Luke: 12:35-48.

DO NOT LOSE YOUR OPPORTUNITY; DO NOT MISS THE RIGHT TIME.

<CONCLUSION>

So, let's take an opportunity to become a true worshipper.

Remember:

1. THANK GOD
2. LOVE GOD, and LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR
3. DON'T BE LAZY, BE A HARD WORKER: MOVE MOVE MOVE!

Love God, love your neighbour, love OUR church and love each other as a one family in Jesus Christ. Amen.