

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP AT 11

Sunday June 17, 2018

Look at Titus 3:1-11 in your Bible! Shawn's word is GRACIOUS! Paul tells us what Jesus does for us when he saves us. We move from a life full of sin to one led by God's Holy Spirit. All our sins are washed away. We gain eternal life with all its treasures. We have the fullness of the Holy Spirit, who continually renews our hearts. None of this occurs because we earned or deserved it, it is all a gift of God's grace! Today's songs and readings celebrate GRACE!

SONGS:

Mighty to Save:

Here are several lines from this song. Take time to look up and reflect on these scriptures and the grace that is offered to you through Jesus Christ.

Everyone needs compassion (Matthew 9:36, Mark 6:34)

A love that's never failing (1 Corinthians 13:8 NIV)

Let mercy fall on me (Psalm 145:9)

Everyone needs forgiveness (Romans 3:23-24)

The kindness of a savior (Ephesians 2:7, Titus 3:4-5)

My God is mighty to save (Isaiah 63:1, Zephaniah 3:17)

Come to the Altar:

The word ALTAR has many associations. In some evangelical churches, during worship there is an "altar call" where people come forward to the "altar" as a sign of surrender and worship. In the Old Testament, the altar was the place where God's people made sacrifices for their sin. It was a unique place where God interacted with humans. It's where people would go to find forgiveness for their sin and devote their life to God. In the New Testament, Christ's death on the cross was the ultimate sacrifice on the ultimate altar. As Christians, we do not need to make animal sacrifices anymore. Instead, we are to offer our lives as "living sacrifices" to God, as Paul says in Romans 12. We are "living" sacrifices because Christ has brought us from spiritual death to life. We are in right relationship with God. We are

consecrated. We are set apart for his purpose. When we sing "Come to the Altar" we are asking people to reflect on God's Grace and to make the type of sacrifice Paul mentions in Romans 12:1. We want to lay down the ways of our old self so that we can embrace a new life in Christ.

Wonderful Maker:

God showed his love in creation—he looked at all he made and said that it was good. But, he proved it in redemption; sending his only Son to buy back that which had been taken from him---his relationship with his chosen ones. What a wonderful, loving FATHER...we celebrate and worship him this Father's Day. We praise God because (Psalm 139:14) we are fearfully and wonderfully made; God's works are wonderful, we know that full well!

From the Inside Out

Here's a "line" from this song and two scriptures to help us focus on grace: *"And should I stumble again, Still I'm caught in Your grace"*. Take time to reflect on these verses before worship this Sunday!

Psalm 37:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

SEE YOU IN WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY!