

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, February 18, 2024)

Share:

Come in. Feel your feet on the floor. Settle your worries. Take a deep breath.
Dust the cobwebs from your ears. Relax the tension in your jaw, for Christ is here.

God never stops seeking us.

We have been found.

Let us find God in return.

Let us worship the God of deep waters.

Read these words from a hymn:

You Sought Me

My bones and head were bent down low
When you approached me on your own
You sought me out and called my name
My life would never be the same.

A chance encounter by the lake
I thought this must be some mistake
That someone wrapped in holiness
Would willingly embrace this mess.

I tried to tell you, "Leave me be—
I'm not sure what you see in me."
And yet you chose my net to fill
With all my faults you call me still.

When I begin to doubt my worth
Remind me I was formed from earth
The very good creation of
My God who seeks me out in love.

Read this scripture from worship:

Psalm 25:1-10, *The Message*

¹⁻² My head is high, GOD, held high; I'm looking to you, GOD; no hangdog skulking for me.

³ I've thrown in my lot with you; You won't embarrass me, will you? Or let my enemies get the best of me? Don't embarrass any of us who went out on a limb for you. It's the traitors who should be humiliated.

⁴ Show me how you work, GOD; school me in your ways.

⁵ Take me by the hand; lead me down the path of truth. You are my Savior, aren't you?

⁶ Mark the milestones of your mercy and love, GOD; rebuild the ancient landmarks!

⁷ Forget that I sowed wild oats; mark me with your sign of love. Plan only the best for me, GOD!

⁸ GOD is fair and just; He corrects the misdirected, sends them in the right direction.

⁹ He gives the rejects his hand and leads them step-by-step. ¹⁰ From now on every road you travel will take you to GOD. Follow the covenant signs; read the charted directions.

Luke 5:1-11, *The Message*

¹⁻³ Once when he was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret, the crowd was pushing in on him to better hear the Word of God. He noticed two boats tied up. The fishermen had just left them and were out scrubbing their nets. He climbed into the boat that was Simon's and asked

him to put out a little from the shore. Sitting there, using the boat for a pulpit, he taught the crowd.

⁴ When he finished teaching, he said to Simon, “Push out into deep water and let your nets out for a catch.”

⁵⁻⁷ Simon said, “Master, we’ve been fishing hard all night and haven’t caught even a minnow. But if you say so, I’ll let out the nets.” It was no sooner said than done—a huge haul of fish, straining the nets past capacity. They waved to their partners in the other boat to come help them. They filled both boats, nearly swamping them with the catch.

⁸⁻¹⁰ Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell to his knees before Jesus. “Master, leave. I’m a sinner and can’t handle this holiness. Leave me to myself.” When they pulled in that catch of fish, awe overwhelmed Simon and everyone with him. It was the same with James and John, Zebedee’s sons, coworkers with Simon.

¹⁰⁻¹¹ Jesus said to Simon, “There is nothing to fear. From now on you’ll be fishing for men and women.” They pulled their boats up on the beach, left them, nets and all, and followed him.

Talk together:

- What is the beginning of your faith story?
- What are the first things you were taught about God?
- When was the first time you felt God’s presence? When has God sought you out?
- What do you imagine about Peter’s faith story?
- What are his hopes and dreams? What are his daily challenges?
- What are his impressions of Jesus?
- Have you ever pivoted your life in order to follow a new calling?
- What did you leave behind? How did that new path unfold? Where was God along the way?
- How will you follow Jesus this week??

Pray together:

Creator God, You hear everything. You hear the rush of the wind through the trees. You hear a baby’s first cry. You hear the crickets chirping, our silent prayers, and laughter around tables. You hear it all! We don’t need that same capacity, but we do need to hear your Word, O God, for we cannot live on bread alone. So today we pray: give us the ability to truly listen. Give us the ability to listen with our hearts, and may the truths revealed in your scripture today change us. With hearts full of gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Resources Used:

Sanctified Art
The Message
Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion
Glory to God, The Presbyterian Hymnal