

“TAKE 10 - Worship While Away” (Sunday, February 1, 2026)

Share:

In a world that rewards selfishness,
it is wise to hoard resources, foolish to share.
In a world built on violence,
it is wise to be suspicious, foolish to risk compassion.
But God's wisdom is not the wisdom of the world:
Greed will not serve us in heaven.
Self-preservation will not save us in the end, so we will choose to be foolish; we will choose the way of love.
Let us worship God.

Read these words from a hymn:

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

[refrain] In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. [refrain]

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. [refrain]

Read this scripture from worship:

Micah 6:1-8, The Message

1-2 Listen now, listen to God: “Take your stand in court. If you have a complaint, tell the mountains; make your case to the hills. And now, Mountains, hear God’s case; listen, Jury Earth—For I am bringing charges against my people. I am building a case against Israel.

3-5 “Dear people, how have I done you wrong? Have I burdened you, worn you out? Answer! I delivered you from a bad life in Egypt; I paid a good price to get you out of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you—and Aaron and Miriam to boot! Remember what Balak king of Moab tried to pull, and how Balaam son of Beor turned the tables on him. Remember all those stories about Shittim and Gilgal. Keep all God’s salvation stories fresh and present.”

6-7 How can I stand up before God and show proper respect to the high God? Should I bring an armload of offerings topped off with yearling calves? Would God be impressed with thousands of rams, with buckets and barrels of olive oil? Would he be moved if I sacrificed my firstborn child, my precious baby, to cancel my sin?

⁸ But he’s already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It’s quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don’t take yourself too seriously—take God seriously.

Matthew 5:1-12, *The Message*

1-2 When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

3 “You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

4 “You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

5 “You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are—no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought.

6 “You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. He’s food and drink in the best meal you’ll ever eat.

7 “You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourselves cared for.

8 “You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

9 “You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.

10 “You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom.

11-12 “Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don’t like it, *I do!* And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

Talk Together:

- ☞ When do you have quiet times with God?
- ☞ How can “hiking the mountains” bring solitude, inspiration, and challenge?
- ☞ What happens when Jesus “hikes the mountain” with his disciples?
- ☞ Who does Jesus call blessed?
- ☞ What compels you to want to be blessed, knowing Jesus’ definition?
- ☞ How are the Beatitudes gifts?
- ☞ How are the Beatitudes an invitation to hike to the mountain of God?
- ☞ What does it mean “to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly” in your everyday life?
- ☞ What “mountains” will you hike with Jesus this week?

Pray together:

Lord, may mercy be my eyes, seeing how you cover my wounds with your love. May humility be my ears, hearing that I am as important to you as the one who is next to me and the one who is far from me. May justice be my guide as I seek to follow your will in this world. Through Christ. Amen.