



CHRIST'S COMMISSION FELLOWSHIP

Los Angeles

Dgroup Discussion Guide
August 3, 2014

Who is your Lord?

Word:

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah” Acts 2:36

“Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:9-11

The word “lord” is used in many things – lord of the rings, lord of the flies, and many others – because of this it has become overused and has lost its meaning. In the Greek language, lord is *kyrios* which means supreme in authority. . . or in common terms – he is the boss. The next question then is: Who is your boss? Who is your lord?

More importantly. . . we should ask who is Jesus in your life?

Jesus as we read in Acts is both Lord and Savior. Unfortunately, there are some who believe that Jesus is just a prophet or a great man who lived. Even more unfortunate are those who seemingly received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior but only because they are afraid to go to hell, or maybe they were coerced to. But Jesus is not only our Savior, He is also our Lord. . . but more often than not His Lordship only comes to mind when we are after the blessings that we can receive, or if we are asking for protection. . . but this should not be the case.

Jesus' lordship over us should be complete and we should entrust ourselves unto His lordship because we know that He is sovereign. An understanding of God's power and sovereignty should make us confident in His lordship as well.

So what does it mean to have Jesus as our Lord?

L – LOYALTY

Daniel 3 tells us of the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who refused to worship the god of King Nebuchadnezzar. When the king heard of this he had them thrown into the fire. But when they did they noticed that there were four men in the fire instead of three, the fourth of which seemed like a god. The king then ordered that they be brought out of the fire and they were seen to be unharmed. In verse 28 *Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, for he sent his angel to deliver his trusting servants when they defied the king’s commandment and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own.”*²⁹ *Therefore, I make this decree, that any person of any nation, language, or religion^[d] who speaks a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb and his house knocked into a heap of rubble. For no other God can do what this one does.*³⁰ Then the king gave promotions to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, so that they prospered greatly there in the province of Babylon.”

If we were faced with this situation – that we would be asked to deny our faith – how would we respond? Would we be like Habakkuk when he said *“though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and not cattle in the stalls yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.”* (3:18) Likewise, we too should have the same passion and enthusiasm to stand up for Jesus, to remain loyal to Him against all odds.

O – OBEDIENCE TO GOD’S WORD

“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord’ and do not do what I say?” (Luke 6:46)

Is this not true for us? We call “Lord, Lord” and yet we are selective in our obedience to Him. Often we only obey when it is convenient to us, then we obey. But when it no longer suits us, we choose to disobey and reason that God would understand.

There are some common areas where we choose to force our will rather than obey God: waiting for God’s best in regards to our spouse choices, our finances, tithing, when the bible tells us not to be yoked with unbelievers, in our decision-making and forgiving those who have hurt us. These are our biggest challenges – but if we choose to obey God then it will benefit us in the end.

God demands complete obedience from us because He is sovereign. He knows His plans for us. Jesus is in the business of transforming lives but it is necessary for us to obey God’s commandments and submit to His will in order for this to take effect in our life. Isaiah 1: 19 says *“If you consent and obey, you will eat the best of the land.”*

We always have to remember that God demands complete obedience from us because He is sovereign and He is omniscient. Our life has already been planned out for us – if we choose to live a life outside the plans of God for us we are only choosing to make it more difficult for us.

R – REPENTANCE FROM SIN

What is repentance? True repentance is turning away from sin and running towards God. It is having a change of mind that leads to a change in action.

We all have favorite sins. These are the repetitive sins, the sins that are present in our day to day. . . we need to repent of these sins and ask for the grace and the courage to be freed from these sins. The bible says turn away from our wicked ways. . . these are our favorite sins. . . these are the sins we live in day to day. All we can really do is to go to the Lord and ask Him for forgiveness and the grace to sin less and less. Ask God to cleanse us, to give us the courage and freedom so that we will not be bound by our sin. Instead of being slaves to sin we must become slaves to God.

D- DYING TO SELF

Our world today is teaching us to be more and more self-centered instead of more and more selfless. But the bible tells us that we should think of others as more important than ourselves.

But this is very difficult. More often than not we would hear people say “what about me?” “what about my rights?” We tend to forget others, who the bible says are more important than you. It is when we treat others as more important than ourselves that we will see God. This is what it means to die to ourselves. To forget what we want, what we need and focus on what God wants from us.

Matthew 16:24 - 25 says *“The Jesus said to His disciples, ‘Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Me will find it.’”*

That is why the Christian life is not difficult – it is actually impossible. We can only rely on God’s mercy and love. . . on His faithfulness . . . and on Him fulfilling His promise of having good plans for our lives. We have to depend on God moment by moment, day by day. . . in every big thing . . . and in every minute thing.

We have been chosen. We are chosen children. . . called for a purpose. It is time we declare Jesus is Lord. Jesus is Lord over my life. Jesus is Lord over my family. Jesus is Lord over my career. Jesus is Lord over every little thing in my life.

We must always bear in mind : **If Jesus is not Lord of all then Jesus is not Lord at all.**

Works: Journaling task

If Jesus is not Lord of all then Jesus is not Lord at all.

Heart Check:

1. What does this mean to me?
2. What is God's message to me in this statement.
3. What does Jesus' lordship in my life mean to me?
4. In what area of my life is Jesus Lord? In what area is He not Lord?