



Activate: God's Glory
Lesson 6: Glory on Display

Lesson 6, Devotion 1

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" - John 11:38-40

By the time Jesus arrives to save the life of his friend Lazarus, it's already too late. Or is it? When Jesus tells the men to roll away the stone, Martha makes a good point that Lazarus has been dead for four days and it's not going to be nice. Instead of agreeing with Martha, Jesus says something incredible: "*Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?*" What happens next is extraordinary as Lazarus is raised to life and reunited with His family and friends.

Have you ever considered this? In our failures, in our pain, and in our hardest times, Jesus wants to display His glory in our lives. So often we are like Martha and object to how God can make good of such a mess. However, the God of creation wants to display His power and glory in our lives even when there seems to be no way to do so.

So, here's a question: What situation, pain, or disappointment in your life seems unredeemable? What could happen if you believe today that God's glory could be displayed in these situations of your life?

Ask God to give you faith to believe that He can work in the hardest of situations. Ask Him to display His glory in your life in those areas that seem unredeemable.



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Lesson 6, Devotion 2

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." - Luke 2: 8-10

Have you ever wondered why the shepherds were terrified when the glory of the Lord shone around them? Why would something so glorious cause these guys to fear for their lives?

Consider this for a moment. These men were the outcasts of their society. They were terrified because they had no context to frame these extraordinary things they were seeing! It's incredible that God wanted these humble shepherds to be the first to hear His good news and see and experience His glory. But God has a way of doing the unexpected.

As a teenager, it's often easy to think that your life does not yet have significance or that you will have to wait to get older before opportunities come your way. It's easy to buy the lie that God only uses extraordinarily talented or gifted people. When it comes to God's glory, we need to know He is generous. He looks for humble people to be used for His plans and purposes.

Think about this:

- God wants you to experience His glory and be a part of His incredible plans. You might feel like you're always the last to know, but that's not how God operates. His first aim is to bring glory to Himself. He then chooses to include humble followers in these plans.

Come to God today and humbly ask Him to show you where you can serve Him and bring Him more glory.



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Lesson 6, Devotion 3

"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." - Romans 6:4

Have you thought about how God's glory is displayed every time someone is saved from their sins because of Jesus? Do you realize God wants His glory displayed through our lives as well as those who yet to be saved? Don't miss this, God wants us be apart of His glorious plan and to be excited about our changed lives, but He also wants us to be His vessels to share the good news.

We can see and experience God's glory when say "yes" to Him personally, but we can also say yes to Him by being a part of His mission to see all people come to Him.

Some things to Think About:

- Have you said yes to God with your own life? If not, have you considered it? What is keeping you from it?
- Who are the people God has placed in your life who are ready to say "yes" to Jesus? What part does God want you to play?

Pray and ask God to show you your next step in your faith walk. Ask Him to show you how His glory can be displayed further in your life.