

Sermon Discussion Guide- Week of Oct 6, 2019

Building For The Future: 1 Chronicles 29:10-19

Pastor Temple (8, 9:15, 10:30 Trad), Pastor Johnson (10:30 Selah)

Getting Started- Life Updates, Prayer Requests & Opening Question (15 min)

- Anything to share about personal events since you last met or about applying last week's message on Building For The Future: The Sword & The Trowel?
- Are there any joys or concerns that you would like to share with the group for the closing prayer time or for group members to hold in prayer during the week? (please note them below for later)

Opener Question: What person's story comes to mind when you think of a "self-made person" or a "pull yourself up by your own bootstraps" person? Aside from self-reliance, if they were honest, where else would they need to look to offer some credit for their success as well?

Review the Sermon (15 min)

Please read aloud the sermon scripture, 1 Chronicles 29:10-19. Know that it is ok to skip some questions below in order to manage the time for discussions in each section.

¹⁰ David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "Praise be to you, LORD, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

¹¹ Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. ¹² Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. ¹³ Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. ¹⁴ "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. ¹⁵ We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors.

Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. ¹⁶ LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. ¹⁷ I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. ¹⁸ LORD, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you. ¹⁹ And give my son Solomon the wholehearted devotion to keep your commands, statutes and decrees and to do everything to build the palatial structure for which I have provided."

- If you had to give a one-minute summary of the sermon message this week, what would you say?

- In the previous chapter of 1 Chronicles, an immense offering from the people was given for the construction of Temple for the God of Israel that was to be built by King David's son Solomon. In King David's words of thanksgiving and praise in verses 10-12, what qualities of God are shared?
- How do these qualities of God impact one's perspective on the topic of "creating wealth?"
- What kind of human response to the Lord does King David suggest is right in verses 13-14?
- How are King David's and the people's views of stewardship apparent in verses 16-17?
- How does David show concern for future generations and for what does he appeal to the Lord (vs. 18-19)?
- What experiences of David's life do you believe may have had a positive influence on his sense of gratitude to God?

Other Related Readings (10 min)

- Would a volunteer please read out loud 2 Corinthians 8:1-12.
- What were the churches in Macedonia like (verse 1-5)?
- As the teacher/apostle to the Corinthian church, why does Paul write them about generous giving (vs 7)?
- How are the Macedonian Church and the example of Christ lifted up as teaching points in Paul's letter (verses 8-9)?
- In his message Pastor Temple said that Biblical giving was systematic, proportional and sacrificial. How do verses 10-12 support these ideas?
- Paul also writes in 1 Corinthians 13:3, "If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing." Why do you think Paul connects the importance of love with giving?

Personalizing and Applying The Message (10 min)

- As you reflect upon the sermon and the additional readings above, what are points of encouragement or challenge for you personally?
- The word "give" occurs many times in King David's words in the 1 Chronicles passage and by Paul in 2 Corinthians. What other adjectives could be used to describe the kind of giving described in these passages?
- How has this conversation affected your intentions for personally giving toward the Lord's work?
- The Building For the Future Campaign is to help fund church facility repairs and improvements in the Gym for worship services and other meetings, enhancements for worship in the sanctuary and a roof for the children's wing. Have you considered filling out a commitment card for these special projects?

Witness & Closing Prayer (5-10 min)

- How may our generous giving help enable the gospel of Jesus Christ to be shared with people in the Sugar Land and Missouri City area?
- How do you think the younger generations in our area can best be reached for Christ?
- The group leader or another volunteer who took notes on the prayer requests shared earlier in the meeting, may now lead the group in closing prayer