

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

December 17, 2024 – Ministry to the Lord: Our Highest Privilege & Calling – Erlinda Cruz

Ministry to the Lord: Our Highest Privilege and Calling (Day 8)

Christianity is the Pursuit of a Person

Christianity is actively pursuing a Person and actively resisting sin, sickness, and Satan. It is more than escaping from hell, obeying a code of conduct and fulfilling a ministry assignment. Many live a “defensive Christianity;” they focus on sincerely resisting darkness, but do not aggressively pursue Jesus. This approach is weak and ineffective and does not change our inner man. As we focus on the holy preoccupation of pursuing Jesus, we will be strong and effective.

The power of our Christian experience is found in interacting with the person Christ Jesus. Jesus is a glorious person, yet so many do not enjoy relating to Him. We are to introduce people to the glory of Jesus and the adventure of discovering His splendor. The only way to keep from losing ground in our spiritual life is to gain new ground in our understanding and experience.

“I count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus...”

Philippians 3:8

Highest Manifestation of God’s Glory: Revelation of His Emotions

Moses prayed to see God’s glory (beauty). God answered Moses by promising to reveal His goodness and proclaim His Name to Moses. To proclaim the Lord’s name means to reveal His character or personality, especially His emotions. Moses heard God preaching on God. God has the best personality. He is the most kind, good, pure, happy, smart, passionate Person that exists.

“Moses said, ‘Please, show me Your glory.’ Then He said, ‘I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you...’

Exodus 33:18-19

The very pinnacle of God manifesting His glory is when He reveals His heart (emotions.) We go deep in our understanding of each emotion by thanking God for them and by searching them out in Scripture.

The end result: we live with the assurance that He enjoys us, which leads to confident partnership with Him. When we have confidence before God, we run to Him instead of from Him even in our weakness.

One way that we glorify God is by agreeing with these aspects of His heart: we receive them, declare them, and express them to others through our behavior.

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

December 17, 2024 – Ministry to the Lord: Our Highest Privilege & Calling – Erlinda Cruz

“The LORD...proclaimed, ‘The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth’... The LORD, whose name is Jealous...”
Exodus 34:6, 14

The LORD God: First, God revealed His power and authority to direct the nations and our lives.

The Lord is merciful: The Lord is tender in relating to us in our weaknesses and sin.

Mercy is the first aspect of His personality that He revealed to Moses; it is the one we need first and most. Some resist God’s mercy because it violates their sense of justice, knowing that they do not deserve it. At the cross, the Father satisfied the claims of justice. When we understand that Jesus bore our judgment and that justice has been satisfied, we can stand with confidence and receive mercy. The Lord delights in mercy. It is one of His favorite things to do in leading the universe.

“Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity... He delights in mercy.”
Micah 7:18

We are invited continually to enter into His presence and to experience Him, His love, and affection in all ways. Let us draw near to Him so He draws near to us.