

GLORIFYING GOD WITH ALL WE HAVE

Note to the speaker:

Build heartfelt appreciation for the precious privilege we have of using our lives to glorify Jehovah. Show that this is possible even though we may have little to offer from the world's viewpoint. Motivate audience to give fully of themselves and thus give Jehovah the honor and glory he rightfully deserves

WHY JEHOVAH DESERVES TO BE GLORIFIED (5 min.)

The Hebrew word most often translated "glory" is *ka-vohdh'*, which has the sense of "heaviness" (*w91 2/1 10 ¶3; it-1 963*)

A person who is glorified is thus made weighty or impressive; his dignity, honor, and worth are extolled
The Greek word that is the equivalent of *ka-vohdh'* is *do'xa*

It has the sense of repute, honor, or splendor

As the Grand Creator and Sovereign Lord, Jehovah is worthy of being glorified (Re 4:11)

Mighty angels of heaven give him glory (Re 7:11, 12; *re 124 ¶15-16*)

When announcing the birth of Jesus, heavenly angels glorified God (Lu 2:14; *w87 4/1 13-14*)

How much more should we lowly humans glorify God!

We benefit from all of Jehovah's good and perfect provisions (Jas 1:17)

God's greatest gift has been the provision of his Son for our redemption (Joh 3:16; 1Jo 4:9)

All people are called upon to ascribe glory to Jehovah in view of his name and kingship (Ps 96:7, 8, 10; 145:11-13; *w90 9/15 16-18*)

WHY SO FEW ARE GLORIFYING HIM TODAY (5 min.)

The majority of humans are blinded by Satan and his example of selfishness (2Co 4:4)

Men seek their own glory by striving to make a name for themselves and receive glory from one another (Joh 5:40-44; 7:18; *w76 327 ¶2*)

They are like the king of Tyre, who imitated Satan the Devil (Eze 28:14, 15)

Many refuse to acknowledge the clear manifestations of Jehovah's power and majesty (Ro 1:20, 21)

Deliberately dishonoring God's Word, many become immoral and glory in their own filth (Ro 1:24-27; *g89 7/8 26-7*)

IN WHAT WAYS CAN WE GLORIFY GOD? (10 min.)

Jesus set pattern in glorifying his Father by submitting himself wholly to God's will (Php 2:5, 6; Heb 10:7, 9)

He glorified God by declaring "good news" to the meek (Lu 4:18, 19)

Christ shared this privilege with his followers (Mt 10:5-10)

He instructed the disciples as to how they might glorify the Father (Joh 15:8)

As his disciples, we must follow Jesus (1Pe 2:21)

We must refuse to walk in the way of the wicked world (Eph 4:17)

Ought to make our minds over, make dedication, get baptized, do the will of God (Mt 16:24; Ro 12:1, 2)

Vital to imitate Christ Jesus in spending as much time as reasonably possible in house-to-house and informal witnessing (Mr 1:38; Joh 4:6-30)

We now know ways in which we can glorify God, but how can we glorify him with all we have?

HOW WE CAN GLORIFY GOD WITH ALL WE HAVE (10 min.)

It is not how much we have that glorifies Jehovah (Lu 21:1-4)

The important thing is: Do we use *all* that we do have to glorify him?

All of us have different circumstances, but each one has assets he can use to glorify Jehovah: talent, education, youth, experience, singleness, material things (*w90 7/1 29-31*)

Even difficult circumstances in life can be used to glorify Jehovah

(Speaker: Develop one or more of the above points as time permits. See the *Index* under the heading "Life Stories of Jehovah's Witnesses")

For example, consider talent:

Many who come to a knowledge of the truth are talented

Some have been highly successful actors, musicians, sports personalities, engineers, and so forth

These glorify Jehovah with all they have by putting the Kingdom first, thus showing that God's purposes are more valuable to them than worldly success (*g84 12/8 19-20; g86 7/22 17-20*)

In many cases these have been able to put their talents to good use in supporting themselves in the pioneer work, in serving at Bethel, or in another avenue of sacred service (*g89 2/22 16*)

What about you? Are you using your talents or other assets to glorify God?

This is not token service, something just to get by, but service with all the heart, soul, and strength (Mr 12:29, 30)

We must fill our lives with activities having to do with Jehovah's work (1Co 15:58)

Thus we bring glory to his name (Re 14:7)

AIDS IN GLORIFYING GOD (10 min.)

Need to listen to the voice of Jehovah and to the instructions of his Son (Mt 17:5; Heb 4:7, 10)

Only in this way can we get accurate knowledge, without which we cannot glorify God intelligently (Joh 17:3)

Should assemble with those who do give God glory, rather than isolate ourselves

Unified, organized action is thus possible in order to enhance glory to God (Heb 10:23-25)

We can learn of and copy the examples of approved men and women who in the past served God to his glory (Heb, chap 11)

Jesus Christ is the prime example (Heb 12:1-3)

The apostles also provide us with excellent examples (*w90 6/1 10-20; w90 6/15 10-25*)

Must persist in prayer to God for strength to meet the attacks of Satan and his world and thus never "shrink back" (Heb 10:39; Lu 21:34, 36; Jas 4:8; *w82 3/1 22 ¶6*)

REWARDS WILL BE OURS FOR GLORIFYING GOD WITH ALL WE HAVE (5 min.)

We will gain the satisfaction of knowing that we are seeking to follow the pattern of Jesus Christ, who always glorified the Father (Joh 17:4, 5)

Will have peace of mind in the knowledge that we are not glorifying mere creatures but rather the only One worthy of our praise as the Supreme Sovereign (Ps 145:3; Re 4:11; *w90 9/15 11-12*)

Even now we can enjoy the anticipation of the promised reward—life everlasting in Jehovah's favor (1Sa 2:30; *w87 12/15 20 ¶21*)

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need to be read)