

## Truer Knowledge Brings Greater Joy by John Piper

*And all the people went their way . . . to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.* (Nehemiah 8:12)

The only joy that reflects the worth of God and overflows in God-glorifying love is rooted in the true knowledge of God. And to the degree that our knowledge is small or flawed, our joy will be a poor echo of God's true excellence.

The experience of Israel in Nehemiah 8:12 is a paradigm of how God-glorifying joy happens in the heart. Ezra had read the word of God to them and the Levites had explained it. And then the people went away "to make great rejoicing."

Their great rejoicing was because they had understood words — the true words of God.

Most of us have tasted this experience of the heart burning with joy when the word of God was opened to us (Luke

24:32). Twice Jesus said that he taught his disciples for the sake of their joy.

- John 15:11, "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."
- John 17:13, "These things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

And what we mainly see in the word is the Lord himself — God himself — offering himself to be known and enjoyed. "The Lord revealed *himself* to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the Lord" (1 Samuel 3:21).

The point is that if our joy is going to reflect the glory of God, then it must flow from true knowledge of how God is glorious. If we are going to enjoy God duly, we must know him truly.

### Events

TODAY Mike & Drena Byrne,  
OM Tajikistan Report 7 PM  
5/20 Stacy Henning Young  
Life Report 7 PM  
5/20 Fellowship Picnic 7 PM  
5/26 Flourishers Picnic  
at Williams 5:30 PM  
5/27 Youth Picnic 7 PM

### Give



### Upcoming Events



### Pastors

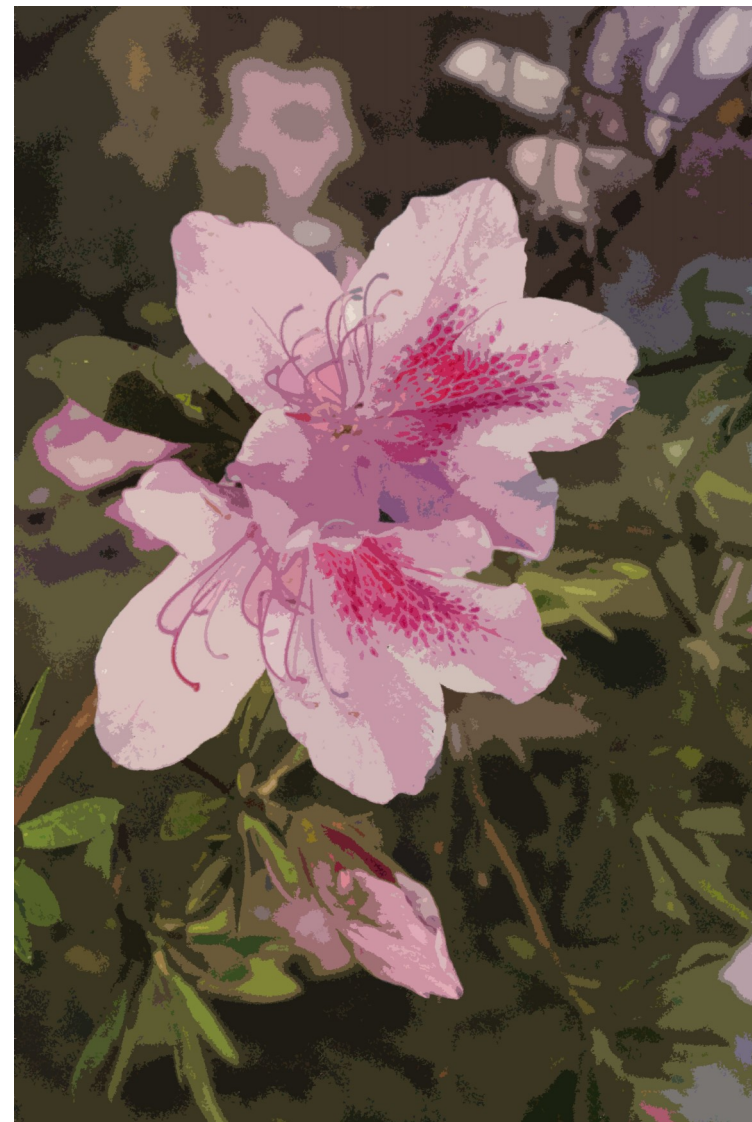
Gary Hendrix	Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner	Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston	Bob Prentice
Andy Dunkerton	Michael Lopes

### Service Times

— Sunday School 9:30 am  
— Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
— Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm  
— Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm

919-563-9249  
[www.grbc.net](http://www.grbc.net)

May 13, 2018



**IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST  
HE IS A NEW CREATION**

2 Cor 5:17



Traducción simultanea  
al español disponible en  
servicios de AM y PM

## Morning Worship

### Call to Worship

Nick Gaines

### Opening Hymn

O Praise the Name

I cast my mind to Calvary  
Where Jesus bled and died for me  
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet  
My Saviour on that cursed tree

His body bound and drenched in tears  
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb  
The entrance sealed by heavy stone  
Messiah still and all alone

**(Chorus) O praise the name of the Lord our God  
O praise His name forevermore  
For endless days we will sing Your praise  
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God**

Then on the third at break of dawn  
The Son of heaven rose again  
O trampled death where is your sting?  
The angels roar for Christ the King **(Chorus)**

He shall return in robes of white  
The blazing sun shall pierce the night  
And I will rise among the saints  
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

**(Chorus 2x) Oh Lord, oh Lord our God**

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### Scripture Reading

John 6:16-40, page 891

### Pastoral Prayer

### Offertory

#27 Great is Thy Faithfulness

### Preparatory

Your Great Name

1. The lost are saved, find their way at the sound of Your great name.  
All condemned feel no shame at the sound of Your great name.  
Every fear has no place at the sound of Your great name.  
The enemy, he has to leave at the sound of Your great name.

**(Chorus) Jesus, worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us.**

**Son of God and man, You are high and lifted up  
and all the world will praise Your great name.**

2. All the weak find their strength at the sound of Your great name.

The sick are healed, the dead are raised at the sound of Your great name.

**(Chorus)**

**Your great name.**

**Jesus, no higher name than Jesus, no sweeter name than Jesus.**

**Jesus, worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us.**

**Son of God and man, You are high and lifted up and all the world will  
praise...**

**Jesus, worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us.**

**Son of God and man, You are high and lifted up**

**and all the world will praise Your great name, Your great name, Your great  
name.**

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### Sermon

Pastor Gary Hendrix

## Evening Worship

### Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Fortner

### Opening Hymn

Jesus Sinners Does Receive

"Jesus sinners does receive:" word of surest consolation;  
Word all sorrow to relieve, word of pardon, peace, salvation!

Naught like this can comfort give:

"Jesus sinners does receive," naught like this can comfort give!

On God's grace we have no claim, yet to us His pledge is given;  
He hath sworn by His own name, open are the gates of heaven.

Take to heart this word and live:

"Jesus sinners does receive," take to heart this word and live!

When a helpless lamb doth stray, after it, the Shepherd pressing  
thro' each dark and dangerous way, brings it back, His own possessing.  
Jesus seeks thee, O believe: "Jesus sinners does receive,"  
Jesus seeks thee, O believe! Jesus seeks thee, O believe!

Oh, how blest it is to know: were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow, by Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe: "Jesus sinners does receive,"  
For these words I now believe!

Now my conscience is at peace, from the Law I stand acquitted;  
Christ hath purchased my release, and my every sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve: "Jesus sinners does receive,"  
Naught remains my soul to grieve! Naught remains my soul to grieve!  
"Jesus sinners does receive:" word of surest consolation;  
Word all sorrow to relieve, word of pardon, peace, salvation!

Words: Erdmann Neumeister, 1718 Music: Matt Foreman, 2012 Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 53, page 613

### Pastoral Prayer

### Offertory/Preparatory

Jesus Thou Joy

Jesus, Thou Joy of loving hearts, Thou Fount of life, thou Light of men,  
From the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou savest those that on Thee  
call;

To them that seek Thee Thou art good, to them that find Thee All in all.

We taste Thee, O Thou living bread, and long to feast upon Thee still;  
We drink of Thee, the Fountainhead, and thirst our souls from Thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee, wherever our changeful lot is cast;  
Glad when Thy gracious smile we see, blessed when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright;  
Chase the dark night of sin away, shed over the world Thy holy light.

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### Sermon

### Communion

Pastor Andy Dunkerton

Pastor Charles Fortner

Lamb of God

#181 O Dearest Jesus

#175 Man of Sorrows