

Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!



An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, but it is out of focus. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text 'Call to Worship' and 'Psalm 11' is overlaid in the center in a large, bold, black font.

Call to Worship

Psalm 11

Psalm 11 In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, "Flee like a bird to your mountain, for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart; **if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?**" The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; **his eyes see**, his eyelids test the children of man. The **LORD tests the righteous**, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; **the upright shall behold his face.**

Blessed Assurance

Hymn 67



Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Hymn 87





Praise and Prayer Request

Philippians 1:3-6 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Receiving of the Offering



2 Cor. 9:5 So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready **as a willing gift**, not as an exaction.

Famous Quote:

“Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark; professionals built the Titanic.”

UNKNOWN



Today's Message

“The Cost of Following”

Scripture text: Luke 9:57-62

What will it cost me to be a follower of Jesus Christ?
Everything! For you must surrender all to Jesus Christ, who IS Lord and Savior!

What makes Jesus so special, that I should follow Him?

John 1:14 And the **Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, **glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

Luke 9:20 Then he said to them, "**But who do you say that I am?**" And Peter answered, "**The Christ of God.**"

Luke 8:19-21 Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you." But he answered them, "**My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.**"

James 1:22-24 But **be doers of the word, and not hearers only**, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

Luke 9:23-27 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For **whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.** But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:57-58 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "**I will follow you wherever you go.**" And Jesus said to him, "**Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.**"

Matthew 8:19-20 And a scribe came up and said to him, "**Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.**" And Jesus said to him, "**Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.**"

Three men could have become disciples, but **they would not meet the conditions that Jesus laid down.** The first man was a scribe who volunteered to go **until he heard the cost: he had to deny himself.** Apparently he was accustomed to a comfortable home.

“God, send me anywhere, only go with me. Lay any burden on me, only sustain me. And sever any tie in my heart except the tie that binds my heart to Yours.”

David Livingstone

Are we willing to have the same **surrendered life** as Dr. David Livingstone who said the words: *“God, send me anywhere, only go with me. Lay any burden on me, only sustain me. And sever any tie in my heart except the tie that binds my heart to Yours.”*

That means, it's not about you, **it's about God**. It's not about comfort, **it's about obedience**, and being lead **by the Holy Spirit**. It means being out of your comfort zone and **in the Will of God!**

1 Corinthians 2:12-16 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but **the Spirit who is from God**, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom **but taught by the Spirit**, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. **The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.** The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.**

Luke 9:59-60 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

The second man was called by Jesus (what an honor!), but **he was rejected because he would not take up the cross and die to self.** He was worried about somebody else's funeral when he should have been planning his own!

Jesus is not suggesting here that we dishonor our parents, but only that we not permit our love for family to weaken our love for the Lord. We should love Christ so much that our love for family would look like hatred in comparison.

Luke 14:26-27 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, **he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.**

Again, this means total surrender to Jesus Christ!

Luke 9:61-62 Yet another said, "**I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.**" Jesus said to him, "**No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.**"

The third man also volunteered, but he could not follow Christ because **he was looking back instead of ahead.** There is nothing wrong with a loving farewell (1 Kings 19:19–21), but **if it gets in the way of obedience, it becomes sin.** Jesus saw that **this man's heart was not wholly with Him,** but that he would be plowing and looking back.

1 Kings 19:19-21 So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "**Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.**" And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. **Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.**

Genesis 19:16-17 But **he lingered**. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, **the LORD being merciful to him**, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. And as they brought them out, one said, "**Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.**"

Genesis 19:26 But **Lot's wife**, behind him, **looked back**, and she became a pillar of salt.

Philippians 3:12-16 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but **I press on to make it my own**, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. **But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.** Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. **Only let us hold true to what we have attained.**

No other King in all the known world has ever died for His people, willingly, **and then rose from the dead to reign forever more.** Except the Son of Man that came from God the Father to be a substitute for us, that we might live for Him!

To follow Jesus Christ will cost us everything in this world, a world that is passing away. Yet, **to live for Jesus Christ, for His glory, to do His Will, to be redeemed by His Blood, in obedience to His calling, we will be called sons of God and will receive an inheritance that is out of this world!**

Ephesians 1:11-14 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. **In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.**

Trust and Obey

Hymn 454

