



Teach My Soul to Revel | Ronnie Johnson | 8.15.21
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

If you could add anyone to Mount Rushmore, who would it be; why?

SHARE

Welcome back to Group! This week, Ronnie preached a sermon called “Teach My Soul To Revel.” Using stories from his summer, he reminded us that God doesn’t need us to earn our place at the table. Before we dive into the sermon, take some time to check in with your Group by answering these questions.

Rate your week on a scale of 1 to 10. Why did you choose that number?

What was the best part of your week? What was the most challenging part of your week?

GROW

Read Mark 10:13-16

What did you notice about the way Jesus interacted with children? Why do you think that was so shocking to everyone else watching?

Would you consider yourself a joyful person? Why or why not?

In the first century, most people ignored children. Since they weren't much help around town, a lot of people saw them as a nuisance. But not Jesus. Although he had a lot on his plate, Jesus was never too busy to stop and play with kids. In his eyes, they were just as important as everyone else. That's why he said, "let the children come" (Mark 10:14).

This week Ronnie was really transparent about how difficult it was for him to rest. I'm sure we can all relate to that. When we aren't achieving, checking things off our to-do list, or moving the ball forward, it can be really difficult to be present with the people around us.

But that was the example of Jesus. Although he managed to save the world from sin and death, he was never too busy for anyone. He was always present with everyone he came into contact with. Even with children!

Is that true about you? Would you consider yourself a present person?

Would those closest to you say you are good at being present with people? Why or why not?

M O V E

Read Philippians 4:4-9

What stuck out to you from this passage? Why do you think that is?

Learning to rejoice, or revel, in God's love can be difficult. Especially when things aren't going well. In his sermon, Ronnie talked about his realization that he is addicted to performing for God. He was trying to earn God's love instead of just receiving and enjoying it.

If you've been around church for a while, you probably know all the right things to say about God. He is a holy, perfect God who forgives and heals. All of those things are true and incredibly important, but do you also believe that God is our loving Father?

When we forget that God loves us unconditionally, we will constantly try to prove ourselves and earn his love. But when we can stop and remember God is our loving Father, we can stop trying to perform and learn to just be with God. When that happens, we'll notice it is so much easier to be present with the people around us. Suddenly, Paul's words in Philippians 4 will start to sound a lot more possible, and we'll be able to: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4).

Do you believe that God actually delights in your joy?

When was the last time you were able to just be present in a moment? What is one thing you can do today just for the fun of it?

P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

T O G O

So, you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

- Romans 8:15