

**LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY**

**PROGRAM 11 (#912126)**

**WEEK 3 (#912327)**

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## ***PRECEPTS FOR LIFE***

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**SERIES: Living For God's Glory**

**TITLE: Program 11 – I Finished The Work You Gave Me To Do!**

### **MONDAY**

#### **OPEN**

How old are you? You say, "I'm not going to tell you. How old are you?" I'm 75 and I want you to know that I'm fully aware of it. I have an ambition in my life and that is to guard God's glory. To live in such a way that I can say, [I have glorified You on earth; I have finished the work You've given me to do.] (PARAPHRASED, John 17:4) What's your ambition before the Lord in the years that He has given you?

#### **PART ONE**

Glorifying God, guarding His glory, that's been our subject through this series: Guarding the glory of God. Now what does it mean to guard His glory? Or as the Old Testament says they "exchange their glory for an image of an ox that eats grass." (See Psalm 106:20) [They exchange their glory,] as Jeremiah says, [for that which does not profit.] (PARAPHRASE, Jeremiah 2:11) Why is it called their glory? Because, Precious One, our glory is really giving a correct opinion of what God created us to be and that is that God

created us to live for His glory. God created us to be down here on Planet Earth in the image of God so that if people see us they see what God is like. So that we can say as Jesus said to Philip when Philip said, [“Show us the Father and, and it will satisfy us,” and Jesus looked at him and said, “Philip? If you’ve seen me, you have seen the Father.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 14:8) God is in the business of changing us from glory to glory into the image of Jesus Christ and this is what we want to look at. All this week, what we are going to look at is: glorifying God in the various circumstances of life. How is that done? How does it look when we guard His glory? When we live for Him? Now I want to do a little bit of review and I want to make sure that you have these words down when you look at glory in the Old Testament. The usual word, the usual Hebrew word is “kabod” “K-A-B-O-D” and that word comes from a word called “kabed” which carries the idea of heaviness, the idea of weight, in other words it’s something that is noteworthy. It is something that is impressive. It is something that is glorious, that has honor that is honorable and so if I’m going to guard God’s glory, or I’m going to guard my glory as a human being created in His image, I’m going to live in a way that honors God. I’m going to give my life the gravity of holiness so that I live in such a way that when people look at the way I order my life, the way I react in relationships, the way I do business, the way I order my home, the way I’m a wife or a husband or a mother or a child. I show to the world a true estimate of God which takes us to the New Testament word for glory which we are going to see and that New Testament word for glory is “Doxa”. You’ve heard of the Doxology: “Praise God for whom all blessings flow; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Him Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.” Alright, that’s the Doxology. It’s singing praise to God. It’s giving God the weight, the true estimate of who He is. So “doxa” comes from the word “dokeo, D-O-K-E-O” which means to think, to recognize, to give a correct opinion or a correct estimate of. So what we are going to see all this week is: Okay, how do I live in such a way that I guard His glory? That I

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guard my glory? And live in such a way that I give to the world a correct opinion, a correct estimate, a correct understanding, a correct picture of what a child of God is? How does a child of God live? Because I've got to live differently than the world. Now as we saw in our last program, what enables me to live that way is Christ in me by the power of His Holy Spirit. Now I want you to write this down, I want you to get it. Now if you've gone to our website, if you have gone to "[preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com)" you have this already written in your study guide because we have a free study guide for you and if you have just connected with the program and you haven't gotten this you need to get it because we have a lot to say and you want to get it down and you want to understand and then you want to be able to teach others. Precept Ministries International is three D's: it is Discover; Discover truth for yourself, the Word of God. Go deeper, deeper into the Word of God by getting in small groups in sharing and using our Bible studies that teach you to study inductively. And you can contact us at [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com) and find out where the closest study is. We have them at all different levels: Precept Upon Precept, Lord Studies, New Inductive study series, 40 minutes studies, we got them for you, okay? We'll meet you wherever you are and we will take you deeper and deeper into the Word of God. So it's discover, it's go deeper, and it is disciple. Disciple means that you take what you have learned and you share it with others. This is one I want you to write down, "Glory is the true apprehension of God." It is the true understanding. It is the true grasping of God. The glory of God means He has an unchanging essence. He never changes. He is the everlasting God. He is El-Olam. He is immutable. He is unchangeable. So the glory of God is His unchanging essence. Giving glory to God then, if I'm going to glorify Him—and that's what we are talking about this week—if I'm going to glorify Him, then I am going to give Him, I'm going to live in such a way that I give Him full recognition. In other words He is number one. He is my absolute priority and the way that I live in every aspect is govern by God because I want to give

Him full recognition of who He is. He is the Lord. He is God. In Him I live and move and have my being. I was created, as Revelation 4 says, “For His pleasure.” (See Revelation 4:11, KJV) He is worthy of my praise. The true glory of man is the ideal condition in which man was created and we saw that in Genesis chapter 1 verse 26 and 27. Alright, this condition we saw was lost in the Fall when Adam and Eve took the forbidden fruit and ate it, alright? But it is recovered. This condition is recovered through Jesus Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit. So that you and I at the end of our life should be able to say what Jesus says. So I want you to go to John chapter 13. I have quoted this verse in this series, but we have not looked at it. So John chapter 13, what we have is they call it the “Upper-Room Discourse.” In John chapter 13, Jesus goes to an upper room. And that upper room does not exist; you see pictures of it, but it is not from the time of Jesus and we don’t know where the upper room was, we just know that it was up in the old city. But when you go up to that old city, somewhere in that region, there was a house that Jesus told His disciples, “I want you to go and I want you to prepare the Passover.” (See Luke 22:8) Now the Passover was an annual feast that they kept every single year and it was in remembrance of when God delivered the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt. He did it by bringing plagues on Egypt and on Pharaoh. And the final plague was the killing of the first-born male from animals to the first-born male, the child in the household. And God said that the angel of death was going to come through and He was going to put every first born male to death, but if the children of Israel would take an animal without spot, without blemish, a Passover lamb. If they would take that animal and they would make sure that it didn’t have spot and blemish and they would kill that animal and take the blood of that animal and put it over the doorpost of their house then when the angel of death was traveling through Egypt and he saw the blood over the lintel, the doorpost of the house, then he would pass over it and the firstborn son would not die. (See Exodus 12) So that’s what the children

did. Now the Lamb was taken, the lamb was roasted and the lamb was eaten it's all a picture of Jesus Christ. As Corinthians says, **"...Christ, our Passover, [has been] sacrificed for us."** (1 Corinthians 5:7, KJV) So they go to the upper room, in the upper room He gathers His twelve. Judas is there and eventually Judas leaves, He washes their feet, they have the Passover meal and then He inaugurates the new covenant. He takes a glass of wine and says "This is the blood of the new covenant," quoting Jeremiah chapter 31. He takes the bread and He says, [This is my body, this is the bread the broken bread for you take it and eat.] (PARAPHRASE, 1 Corinthians 11:24) And they had the covenant meal and then what happens? Whoa, we'll look at it in just a minute.

## **PART TWO**

After Jesus does all of this then Judas leaves. He has washed Judas' feet, Judas has eaten with Him, but now Judas is betraying Him. He turns to His disciples in John chapter 13 and this is what He says and I want to read it to you. It's John chapter 13 verse 33, **"Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you..."** (John 13:33-34) Now they knew that they were to [love their God with all their heart, with all their soul, with all their might, with all their strength, the first and greatest commandment.] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 22:37) **"And the second [one was] like [unto] it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Matthew 22:39)** But now it's new, it's new because it has been demonstrated listen carefully, by Jesus Christ who has loved these people unto death, who has loved them unto death. He is going to die for them. So He is saying [A new commandment I give to you, that you love, that you love that person even as I have love you.] (PARAPHRASE, John 13:34) And then He says, **"By this all men will know that you are My disciples,**

**if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35)** Now what is He saying? He is saying when you love as I loved you in essence you are glorifying God; you are glorifying Jesus because you are showing to them how Jesus loved others. Do you see what it is? The word glorify is not there, but He is saying “By this all men shall know you are my disciples,” why? Because you are doing what I did. You are loving as I loved and when I do what God does; what God would do. When I behave as God would behave, I’m giving Him full recognition as God and I am revealing to others what it is like to be in the image of God. I am being changed from image to image into the image of Jesus Christ. (See Romans 8:29) So He tells them this and then He teaches them and so all the way up to John chapter 17, He is teaching them. And He is teaching them many things, and we don’t have time to go into them, but in John chapter 17, it says, **“Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to Heaven,...”** He said, **“...Father, the hour has come; [to] glorify your Son.” (John 17:1)** What hour had come? The hour of His arrest, His trial, His crucifixion, His death, His burial, His resurrection. That’s the final sign that they are going to see is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The sign that they might believe that He is the Christ. That He is the Son of God as John 20 says, **“...And that believing [they might] have life in His name.” (John 20:31)** So it says, **“... And lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son,...” (John 17:1)** Now mark the word “glorify”: Give a correct opinion of who I am. He says, [“That He, the Son— that I might glorify You.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 17:1) If you will give a correct opinion of who I am, if you will raise me from the dead, if you will take me to heaven then they will have a correct opinion. And if you do that then I am able to glorify you. I am able to show who you are, now listen, in my death, in my burial and in my resurrection. When you and I in love lay down our lives for others, when we make others more important than ourselves, when we love God with all of our heart, all of our soul, all of our mind, all of our strength so that we

obey Him, and even in that obedience death works in us, then life works in others, Precious One. And so then He goes on to say, **“even as You gave Him [the Son] authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. (John 17:2)** Yes, I’m 75. It’s nothing. It’s absolutely nothing. It’s like one minute old if it’s that long in the light of eternity. You see, when I die, I’m just going to be absent from the body and I’m going to be present with the Lord and I’m going to live forever and ever and ever. (See 2 Corinthians 5:8) And since I’m going to live forever and ever and ever in the presence of God, don’t I want to glorify Him? Don’t I want to do the work that He has given me to do? Jesus says, **“...This is eternal life, that they may know You...,” (John 17:3)** See, eternal life is me knowing God: The only true God. There is no other God, there is no other God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. Remember, He became flesh and blood so that He might taste death for you so that you might be freed from the penalty of death and so that you might be recreated into the image of God so that you can guard His glory and manifest to the world what God is like. So watch, and this is the verse I told you, that I have quoted over and over again, but we’ve never looked at it in context have we? He says, **“I glorified You on...earth...,” (John 17:4)** Mark “glorified” purple cloud, colored yellow. “I glorified you on earth,” Isn’t that what you want to be able to say as you face death? He was facing death. He knew it. All the way through John, it says, “My hour has not yet come, my hour has not yet come, my hour has not yet come.” (See John 2:4 and 16:32) Now the hour has come. Now the hour has come. Your hour is going to come and what are you going to say in that hour? I hope you will say what Jesus said, this is what I long to say, **“I glorified you on...earth, having accomplished the work which You have given me to do. Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.” (John 17: 4-5)** Before He became flesh and blood, He had the glory of God and He says, “Glorify me with that same glory.” And your

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prayer and my prayer, Precious One, ought to be, “Lord give me the glory that I could have had, had Adam not sinned. Give me that ability and that accomplishment of glorifying you on earth, of being your representative here on earth. God, I want to glorify you. I want to finish the work you’ve given me to do.” You do not know how much time you have. One of our trainers just got cancer and in a matter of a couple weeks, she was dead. But I knew that when God took Nelda, “my Montana Mama,” it was because her work was finished, because she lived in such a way that she glorified God on earth and she was ready to meet Him and hear His, “Well done.”