

RAISE  
A  
HALL  
LUJAH

WEEK SEVEN

EASTER  
PACKAGE

# RAISE A HALLE LUJAH AND SING

[24 May 2020] Sunday Gospel - John 17:1-11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Father, the hour has come:  
glorify your Son  
so that your Son may glorify you;  
and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him,  
let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.  
And eternal life is this:  
to know you,  
the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.  
I have glorified you on earth  
and finished the work that you gave me to do.  
Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me  
with that glory I had with you  
before ever the world was.  
I have made your name known  
to the men you took from the world to give me.  
They were yours and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.  
Now at last they know  
that all you have given me comes indeed from you;  
for I have given them the teaching you gave to me,  
and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,  
and have believed that it was you who sent me.  
I pray for them;  
I am not praying for the world  
but for those you have given me,  
because they belong to you:  
all I have is yours  
and all you have is mine,  
and in them I am glorified.  
I am not in the world any longer,  
but they are in the world,  
and I am coming to you.’

# RAISE A HALLE LUJAH REFLECTION

## Reflection

In this passage, what stands out to me is the theme of Jesus' petition to be glorified, with Him having done His work on earth of glorifying God. Jesus asks for His Father to glorify Him, because He is the only way to eternal life, and through Him being glorified, the Father is also glorified. However, this petition to be glorified is not a selfish one. Jesus has spent years on earth glorifying His heavenly Father. From His circumcision and dedication at the temple through His quiet years of obedience in Nazareth. Jesus glorified the Father through His faith, obedience, and work through the years of His earthly ministry. Every sermon preached, every blind or sick person healed, every bit of instruction and training for the disciples, every confrontation with the corrupt religious leaders, every question answered, every loving touch – they all glorified God the Father.

Jesus spent His whole life glorifying his Father before He asks to be glorified. This made me reflect - I ask God for a lot, I pray for Him to help me with this and that, for Him to reveal himself to me, for special graces every week. Do I spend even half this energy to intentionally glorify Him? Or do I treat God as a vending machine? Do I, like Jesus, intentionally glorify God in all I think, say, and do, or at least try to? I'm sure all of us have experienced this before, where we feel like we are asking God for too much and not doing enough in return. I feel guilty some nights after an examination of conscience and feeling that I'm not doing enough to intentionally spread God's love and light to those around me in every situation.

# RAISE A HALLE LUJAH

## REFLECTION

However, upon further reflection, I have come to realise that God's love for us is not transactional. He does not give us graces in exchange for how much we love Him. No, He gives of Himself freely and unceasingly. His love and gifts to us are never ending. While it is true that we are called to intentionally glorify God in all we do, I realise that when I feel like I'm not doing enough to be Jesus' love to others, the invitation is always to pick myself up instead of beating myself up for it. I can pray for the graces I need, and begin again. How blessed we are to have a God so generous and merciful!

Andrea Chong

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# REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS

- 1) Do I centre my life around Jesus? In what areas of my life is Jesus not the centre?
- 2) What are some concrete steps I can take to re-centre myself everyday?
- 3) What are 3 things I can do to glorify Jesus everyday?

# RAISE A HALLE LUJAH PRAYER WEEK OF THE

## Build My Life - Pat Barrett

Worthy of every song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You

Jesus, the Name above every other name  
Jesus, the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You  
Oh, we live for You

Holy, there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

# RAISE A HALLE LUJAH INVITATION

## Praying with Song

Jesus, we thank you for this time of reflection and prayer. Father, as we commit to take steps to put you in the centre of our lives, we pray that you help us truly understand what it means to build our lives upon your love. We pray that even though we may fall on the wayside at times, that you help to pick us up and help us remember that your mercy and patience for us is never ending. Father, help us to be vessels of your love to all those around us, so that we may be the salt of the earth and light of the world that you have called us to be.

Amen!