

Message: “Remember to Dance”, presented by Reverend Kristen Lowe on 09-10-2017 at Crossroads United Methodist Church, Waunakee, WI.

Before Jesus began his public ministry, scholars believe he lived a very normal life. He worshiped in the temple and sometimes taught, he helped his family at home, he had friends and did very normal things.

One of those things was attending a wedding of a friend in a neighboring town. We read in John 2:1-11:

Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine had given out, Jesus' mother said to him, “They are out of wine.”

“You must not tell me what to do,” Jesus replied. “My time has not yet come.”

Jesus' mother then told the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

The Jews have rules about ritual washing, and for this purpose six stone water jars were there, each one large enough to hold between twenty and thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, “Fill these jars with water.” They filled them to the brim, and then he told them, “Now draw some water out and take it to the man in charge of the feast.” They took him the water, which now had turned into wine, and he tasted it. He did not know where this wine had come from (but, of course, the servants who had drawn out the water knew); so he called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone else serves the best wine first, and after the guests have drunk a lot, he serves the ordinary wine. But you have kept the best wine until now!”

Jesus performed this first miracle in Cana in Galilee; there he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

The Psalms are filled with God-focused emotional expression. Ps. 149:3 tells us:

Let them praise Him with dancing.

May the word of God be praised. Amen.

Message: “Remember to Dance”



Previously in a special musical service, we danced, pounded drums, sang, waved our hands, clapped.



It's ok to praise God with our whole being.

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We have been talking about Nefesh. No fish.



Nefesh.

Let's talk about scripture about David.

Message: "Remember to Dance"

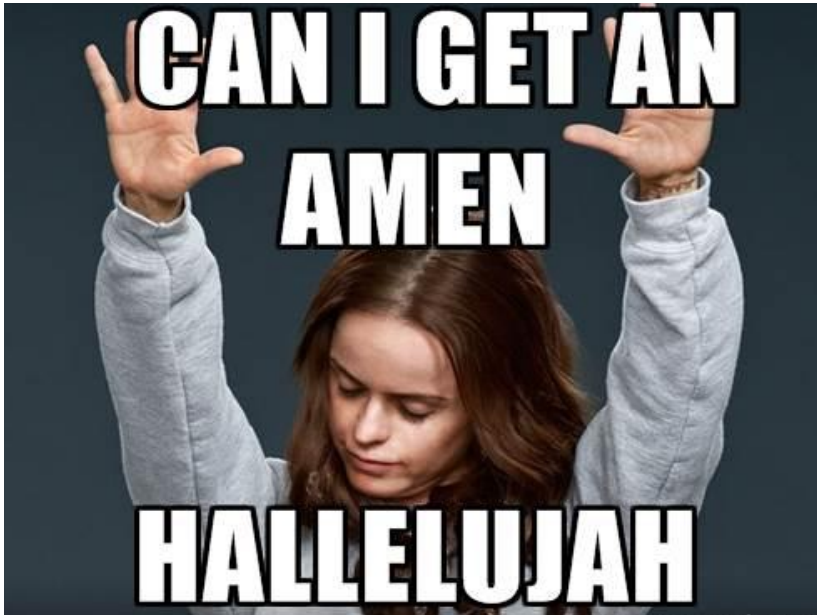


What would it look like if our worship was a response to God's love?



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Practice with me.



When I was a little girl, I was taught how to act:

1. Sit up straight.
2. Look people in the eye.
3. Speak only when spoken to.
4. Always say please and thank you.
5. Eat what's on your plate.
6. Sit still and behave in church.
 - a. Mom tapped me on the knee.
 - b. Have to be careful about what other people think.

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On top of that:

1. We’ve been taught that we should believe.
2. We’ve been taught what to believe.
3. We HAVEN’T been taught HOW to believe.
 - a. Nefesh.
 - b. Respect is appropriate – there’s a time for reverence.

What does that mean for us today – How have we been affected?

1. Self-conscious about looking silly or being rejected by others.
2. Frozen Chosen.
3. Don’t know how to respond – response paralyzed.
 - a. Mission.
 - b. Needs of others.

If you didn’t care what anyone thought but God... what would your worship look like?



**SING TO THE LORD A
NEW SONG! - PSALM 98:1**

How do we put this into play?

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Today's scripture discussed Jesus' attendance at a wedding at Cana.

How big were the jugs? Why this much wine?

There were Seven Days of Celebration – lots of people, singing, dancing, feasting, drinking.

Jesus' first miracle isn't healing or raising from the dead or calming a storm.

Remember – Lightheartedness.

Remember – Salt and Light.

Remember – Be Bold and be strong.

Remember – Let them praise His name with dancing; Let them sing praises to Him with timbrel and lyre.

Remember to dance!

If we are truly on fire for Christ, then our flesh cannot contain our joy. Those around us won't be able to help themselves in being attracted to the joy and assurance we have... the belief that we worship a God – who walks on water, gives sight to the blind and raises the dead.

Can I get an Amen?

Christians – disciples of Jesus Christ – are growing throughout the world. One by one by one.