

12.3 Qualifications

the big idea: God is the Sovereign King



When Kenneth left Club Teen, he took all his ideas and the money they had raised. This time, they scrutinized his replacement, Brother George, to the fullest. He looked qualified on paper, and he appeared enthusiastic, but would he really commit to helping the group? Millie wasn't sure about him.

As their meeting ended, Millie noticed her keys were missing. Brother George overheard Janet offer her a ride with them. Sensing that Millie was uneasy, Brother George decided to handle the situation differently. He

organized the group to find the keys. While that happened, he assigned people to return the meeting chairs to the offices and he set up rides for the rest of the month for those without cars. By the time everything was put away, Millie's keys were found, the room was orderly, and Brother George had posted the names and numbers of volunteers from the firehouse that would help Club Teen. In twenty minutes, Brother George had fulfilled three of the promises Brother Kenneth had never fulfilled. Brother George was just the kind of leader Club Teen needed.

from your Bible

Psalm 47, NIV—Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.² How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth! ³He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. ⁴He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. Selah ⁵God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid

the sounding of trumpets. **⁶Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.** ⁷**For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.** ⁸God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. ⁹The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

Scripture discussion

God is king over all the earth and all the nations. He is the God of all people, who has laid out an inheritance through the promises of Abraham. The text shows us how David praised God and called every believer to do

the same. We should exalt God, which means to raise Him high, acknowledge His power, and recognize God's grand purpose in our lives. Our clapping and singing are joyful noises to the Lord. Through our displays of praise, we express our trust in God and God alone. In doing so, we honor God, who is the sovereign King.

make it real



check it

1. What happened to make Millie suspicious of Brother George?
2. What did Brother George do to handle the situation?
3. How did Brother George's actions that night help to restore Millie's trust in leaders?



think it

1. Why should the people rejoice?
2. Name two ways the Scripture tells us to praise the Lord.
3. According to verse 4, what has God done for us?



do it

Make a list of five things God has done for you recently. Beside each item, write how you gave Him praise. Next, list five circumstances in your life that have recently challenged you. Beside these items, write how God sustained you in those dark times. Now praise God for His sovereignty. Write a poem, choreograph a dance, compose a song, or draw a picture to represent that praise. Be prepared to share with the class next week. But be committed to sharing this praise with God daily.



keep it

"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise" (Psalm 47:6–7, NIV).

12.10 Trusting in the Lord

the big idea: Turning Toward Wisdom



Lisa, a 17-year-old honor student, had everything together. She was an active member of the National Honor Society, was captain of the cheerleading team, and was the president of Student Council. Lisa was not only the “so-called” perfect student, but she also was a faithful member of her church and had just been made a youth intercessor.

When it came time to take the exit exams for graduation, Lisa knew she would have no problems. She remained calm while her friends panicked. Michelle, Lisa’s best friend, was sur-

prised when Lisa did not participate in student prayer before the exam. “Lisa, we’re about to pray; wanna come join us?” said Michelle.

“No, I’m OK; I’ve got it all under control,” Lisa said.

Lisa continued to chat with friends while Michelle and the rest of the students prayed. The test took approximately three hours with only one break. During the test, Lisa began to feel sluggish and found herself spending more time than usual on certain areas. After the test was over, Lisa wondered if she had made the wrong decision in sitting out on prayer.

from your Bible

Proverbs 2:1–5; 3:1–6, 13–18, NIV—My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,

²turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding—³indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,⁴ and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,⁵ then you

will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

3:1—My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,² for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.³ Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.⁴ Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;⁶ in all your ways submit to

him, and he will make your paths straight.

3:13—Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding,¹⁴ for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold.¹⁵ She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her.¹⁶ Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor.¹⁷ Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace.¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her; those who hold her fast will be blessed.

Scripture discussion

Often people forget to give credit where it is due. We, as Christians, should take responsibility for nothing in our lives. We are here because of the Lord and without Him we are nothing. In all we do we must acknowledge Him. How would you feel if you completed an assignment and someone else took credit for your work?

It is clearly explained in Proverbs 2:1–2 that if we trust in God, He will give us true wisdom. So, therefore, trusting in oneself leads to confusion. We have to learn to fear the Lord because there lies the beginning of wisdom. Only those who trust God wholeheartedly will be successful.

Proverbs 3:3 reminds us to never leave “love and faithfulness.” We have to trust God always, even when we think we have all the answers.

make it real



check it

1. How do we understand the fear of the Lord and find knowledge of God (Proverbs 2:1–5)?
2. Where should we keep the commands of the Lord (3:1)?
3. How shall your paths be through wisdom (v. 17)?



think it

1. Why does God want us to fear Him?
2. If we already know something, why should we consult God first?



do it

Think about how you can trust God more. Identify the areas in your life that you need God's insight on rather than your own. This week, try to consult God before you make any decisions and see what a difference it makes.



keep it

“Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding” (Proverbs 3:13, NIV).