

May 3, 2020
Come Together, Part 3
“Glory Be”

If you could receive any trophy or award, what would you like to have received it for?

What do you remember from the message?

What were some things that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Jim said, “Thinking more of ourselves than we ought is the biggest obstacle to our “coming together”. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

In Madonna’s interview with Vanity Fair Magazine, she said, *“I have an iron will, and all of my will has always been to conquer some horrible feeling of inadequacy... I push past one spell of it and discover myself as a special human being, and then get to another stage and think, “I’m mediocre and uninteresting... again and again. My drive in life is from this horrible feeling of being mediocre, and that’s always pushing me, pushing me. Because even though I’ve become somebody, I’ll still have to prove that I’m somebody. My struggle has never ended and it probably never will.”*

What do you think God might want to say to Madonna?

Have you ever felt the way Madonna has? What might God want to say to you?

Since you can’t please everybody, who should you endeavor to please?

READ: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

“That is why we always pray for you, asking our God to help you live the kind of life he called you to live. We pray that with his power God will help you do the good things you want and perform the works that come from your faith. We pray all this so that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will have glory in you, and you will have glory in him. That glory comes from the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Thessalonians 1:11–12 (NCV)

How would you describe “the kind of life God has called you to live”?

What are some of the “good things you want “ to do?

What does Paul mean when he says “...you will have glory in him.”
What is glory?

READ: John 5:39-44 (NIV) [Note to leader: Feel free to expand the range of verses to get a better feel of the context]

“You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings, but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts. I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?”

In this passage Jesus suggests the Pharisees can’t believe in him because they are more interested in receiving approval (glory) from one another than the approval (glory) from God. Have you found that same dynamic at work in our culture? Have you found that dynamic at work in your own life?

How do you make the shift from seeking glory or approval from one another to seeking glory and approval from God?