

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH
LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE



Sermon Date: 25/8/19

Text/s: 2 Chronicles 1:7-14

Title: Knowing The Heart Of God

Preacher: Ps Jason

(The sermon recording and slides are available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

(Read the Bible text/s, quietly or aloud)

REFLECT (20 mins)

(Reflect on key themes and questions in the text/s)

Questions for discussion:

1. v.7: The Preacher said ... “Apparently, the heart of worship that King Solomon displayed at Gibeon was so pleasing to God that He personally visited Solomon in the night and ask him the famous question: **"Ask what I shall give you."**

What do you think were the key elements in **“the heart of worship that King Solomon displayed at Gideon”** that pleased God? Discuss.

Additional notes:

Gibeon was about 11 kilometers to the north and west of Jerusalem. So Solomon led the people of Israel to Gibeon because the tent and the bronze altar were there. It was the official place of worship where God met with His people. Solomon intended to use the bronze altar to sacrifice offerings to God as an act of worship. According to verse 6, Solomon did not offer just one sacrifice, or a hundred, but a thousand of it. Can you imagine how tedious and bloody the process would had been for sacrificing a thousand animals? It had been calculated that a thousand sacrifices would have taken at least seven to nine days to complete. The King and the people would had camped themselves at Gibeon, worshiped God with the sacrifices in the day and slept in the night. It would had been a grand sight to behold, but physically it would had been exhausting.



2. v.11-12a: God answered Solomon, "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked possessions, wealth, honor, or the life of those who hate you, and have not even asked long life, but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may govern my people over whom I have made you king, 12 wisdom and knowledge are granted to you.

God seemed to be more pleased that Solomon asked for wisdom and knowledge than other things. Do you think it is wrong to ask for possessions, wealth, honor or long life? If yes why so? If not, what do you think was the reason that God was so pleased with Solomon about?

RELATE (25 mins)

(Relate and apply God's word to our daily lives)

What Solomon wanted was not personal glory. What he wanted was to do the will of God for His glory. He knew that God's heart was for the people of Israel to grow as a nation. God's heart was for Israel to put Him first so that they can be blessed in all of their ways.

King Solomon knew the heart of God in worship; it was either to surrender to Him, give Him our best or nothing at all.

3. Preacher asked: "When we are just "doing the usual", are we just trying to fulfil an obligation because we are "Christians"? Reflect on your "attitude, service and offering". Share in what ways you have given your best or are still learning how to improve in this aspect.
4. What do you think the Preacher means when he said that in our worship of God, Solomon understood it as either we give Him our very best or nothing at all?

Are you giving God the best you have in your worship of Him? (Our worship of God can mean many things beyond singing praises to God like how we listen to God's word and whether we seek to honor Him in all that we do).

5. Preacher said: "Knowing the heart of God and doing His will should be our life-long pursuit as believers". What are some practical steps you can take in order to know the heart of God more and do His will? (Preacher mentioned two major areas: (1) Consistency in bible reading and study (2) Consistency in spending quality time with the Lord.) If you have time, talk about how as a Life Group (or any groupings you are in) we can help one another in these two areas.

REST (10 mins)

Take time to share and pray for one another, especially in the areas of your service/ministry in church and marketplace that your offerings be acceptable in His sight. Pray for willingness to ask God for His heart's desire.

(Remember also to pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly)