

Agape House

OF WORSHIP

FAMILY OF CHURCHES

2023 ANNUAL RETREAT

FOR THE
SAKE
OF THE **WORLD**



JULY 27-29, 2023

MY NAME IS

AHOW 2023 ANNUAL RETREAT - FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD

Program Outline

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

2.00pm - 4.00pm - Soaking & Intercession Prayer

4.00pm - 5.00pm - Room Check-In

5:00pm - 6:30pm—Dinner

OPENING SESSION

6.30pm - 6.40pm - Opening Prayer

6.40pm - 7.05pm - Corporate Worship

7.05pm - 7.15pm - Welcome Message/Rules & Regulations

7.15pm - 7.25pm - Testimonies

7.25pm - 7.55pm - Plenary Session 1

7.55pm - 8.10pm - Corporate Prayer Session

8.10pm - 8.20pm - Announcement and Transition

8.20pm - 9.50pm - Breakout Session 1

9.50pm - 9.55pm - Transition Back to Auditorium

9.55pm - 10.15pm - Breakout Session 1 Round-up

10.15pm - 10.30pm - Session Closing Charge

AFTERNOON SESSION

3.30pm - 3.45pm - Corporate Worship

3.45pm - 3.50pm - Transition to Breakout Session

3.50pm - 5.15pm - Breakout Session 3

5.15pm - 5.20pm - Transition Back to Auditorium

5.20pm - 5.45pm - Breakout Session 3 Round-up

5.45pm - 7.15pm - Dinner

EVENING SESSION

7.15pm - 7.20pm - Transition Back to Auditorium

7.20pm - 7.35pm - Session Opening Charge

7.35pm - 8.15pm - Personal Prayer and Reflection

8.15 - 8.30 - Holy Communion

8.30pm - 8.55pm - Corporate Worship

8.55pm - 9.40pm - Plenary Session 3

9.40pm - 10.30pm - Prayer and Ministrations

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

7.00am - 7.55am - Corporate Morning Devotion

7.55am - 8.00am - Announcements and Transition

8.00am - 9.15am - Breakfast

MORNING SESSION

9.15am - 9.35am - Corporate Worship

9.35am - 10.05am - Plenary Session 2

10.05am - 10.15am - Corporate Prayer Session

10.15am - 10:20am - Transition to Breakout Session

10.20am - 11.45am - Breakout Session 2

11.45am - 11.50am - Transition Back to Auditorium

11.50am - 12.15pm - Breakout Session 2 Round-up

12.15am - 12.30pm - Session Closing Charge

12.30pm - 3.30pm - Rest/Recreation Break

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

7.00am - 7.55am - Corporate Morning Devotion

7.55am - 8.00am - Announcements and Transition

8.00am - 9.30am - Breakfast and Room Check-out

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

9.30am - 10.00am - Personal Prayer and Reflection

10.00am - 10.25am - Corporate Worship

10.25am - 11.05am - Round-up Message

11.05am - 12.05pm - Impartation Service

12.05pm - 12.50pm - Testimonies

12.50pm - 1.00pm - Appreciation and Farewell

1.00pm - 2.30pm - Lunch & Departure

AHOW 2023 ANNUAL RETREAT - FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD

Welcome Message | Rules and Regulations

Welcome Message



Welcome to the AHOW Annual Retreat 2023. I am excited for another opportunity to gather together again to love on the Lord in fellowship, worship, prayer, the study of the word, and seeking His face. One thing I have realized over these last 17 years is that no two retreats are the same. While there are similarities in the programming and how we are organized, if you are discerning, you will realize that the spiritual experience of each retreat is unique.

God always has something new, fresh, and unique in stock. For *“Because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22-23)*. I am also excited about our theme this year—For the Sake of the World. This theme implies that as believers, we do not just exist for ourselves, but for the sake of the world. *“In fact, all creation is eagerly waiting for God to show who his children are.” (Romans 8:19)*. Hence, the quality of our walk with God has a direct impact on the state of the world. I pray that this retreat will stir us up to make much of Jesus in us and make the most of everything He has placed in us.

Every session in this retreat is set up for a divine encounter. Hence, I encourage you to take every session seriously regardless of what’s happening or who is speaking. God is here, and He is in the business of transforming lives. The purpose of the retreat is to focus on God more intently and seek Him much deeper. The goal here is to do more than scratch the surface that we do every Sunday or Wednesday.

Please bear in mind that we are only here for 48 hours; hence, seize every opportunity offered here to seek God passionately and purposefully. Over the years, I have seen God do marvelous things; I have seen lives transformed in ways that I cannot explain, people set free and delivered from long-term bondages. I have seen many God-given dreams and ideas born out of this gathering. I have no doubt that it will be the same this year.

To conclude, let me give a brief word of caution; the retreat is not just about manifestations, even though they are a wonderful part of it, and there will be a lot of it. It is about transformation, leaving here knowing that your life will never be the same, having encountered Jesus in a different way. It is about leaving here with an indelible mark that will define your relationship with God going forward. I pray that the next 48 hours will be the most consequential 48 hours of your life.

Rules And Regulations

1. Every meeting is an appointment with God; please arrive at the auditorium early. Set your alarm device to wake you up early.
2. Keep yourself alert while you pray by constantly moving around. Don’t get stuck in one position or your body’s lethargy will affect your mental alertness.
3. Please turn your phone off or put on vibration mode during the sessions. Remember this time has been dedicated to God, please refrain from or limit phone calls.
4. Baby-sitting is available throughout the program. Please drop your children at the children’s room before each session.
5. All areas are to be quiet by 11:00pm. Music or any loud instrument should not be played after this hour.
6. Do not bring food into the Chapel, and please pick up after yourself to ensure clean accommodations.
7. Please note that cooking is not permitted in rooms.
8. Spruce Lake Retreat requires a “high standard of modesty in your choice of attire.” Please keep your shirts on while in public areas.
9. Swimming and other fun activities should be restricted to break and rest time only.

BREAKOUT SESSION

Our breakout session is an essential part of the retreat. Breakout sessions are small group discussion sessions lead by a facilitator. The discussion material has been provided in this booklet. Each participant has been assigned a group number which can be found on your name tag. Please use the list below and the map on next page to locate your facilitator and location. The retreat facilitator will be available to guide you if you need help.

The grouping has been assigned equitably so that no group is too large or too small. We strongly believe your assignment group is also part of God's way of working during the retreat. Believe you are in your group for a reason and make sure you attend your assigned group and stick to it. If for any reason you have to change your group, please consult one of the retreat coordinators for permission.

Thank you and have a wonderful discussion session!

BREAKOUT SESSION GROUPINGS AND LOCATIONS

Breakout Group	Facilitator	Room and Location
Group 1	Ade Adedeji	Cedar Hall 1
Group 2	Hephzibah Akintobi	Cedar Hall 2
Group 3	Sunday Dosunmu	Chestnut Meeting (3rd Floor)
Group 4	Olumide Adekanye	Hemlock Hall
Group 5	Stella Jeran	Sycamore (Founders Lodge)
Group 6	Nike Akoh	Hemlock Lounge
Group 7	Tolu Ayangade	Birch Lounge
Group 8	Tunde Olugboji	Oak Room
Group 9	Tunde Odeyemi	Carol Lounge
Group 10	Nneoma Ewurum	Sycamore (Founders Lodge)
Group 11	Tayo Ayodeji	
Group 12	Paul Akoh	Evergreen Room (2nd Fl)
Group 13	Tomi Adeoye	Walnut (Founders Lounge)
Group 14	Mayowa Ayodeji	Lakeview Program Center 1
Group 15	Dolapo Adedeji	Lakeview Program Center 2
Group 16	Kemi Olugboji	
Group Y1	Tunde Obembe	Lilac room (4th Floor)
Group Y2	Olamide David	Lilac room (4th Floor)
Group Y3	Mini Ajayi	Sunroom

Spruce Lake

Pointing People Toward Christ

Retreat Center Detail



A glowing, ethereal Earth is the central focus, rendered in warm tones of pink, orange, and yellow. The planet's surface is textured with light, suggesting clouds and continents. In the upper left, a white dove is captured in flight, its wings spread. From the bottom right, several hands are shown in silhouette, reaching upwards towards the Earth. The background is a soft, hazy gradient of light, with small, sparkling particles scattered throughout, creating a sense of hope and global unity.

**FOR THE SAKE
OF THE WORLD**

AHOW 2023 RERTEAT BREAKOUT FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2023 retreat breakout session. The goal of the breakout is to examine the scripture together as a collective. Engagement and participation of everyone is therefore important to make the best of the study. Our topic for this three-part teaching session is “Living for the Sake of the World”. First, it’s appropriate to examine what we mean by living for the sake of the world. To explain this, we will read a passage from the Beatitudes.

Matthew 5:13-16 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. 14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (NKJV)

In the Sermon on the Mount, which includes the Beatitudes and many other teachings, Jesus taught us about what it means to live as a child of God's kingdom. Here Jesus uses two powerful but familiar elements to describe the function of believers on earth; He calls us the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

You Are the Salt of the Earth

- What does it mean to be the salt of the earth?
- What do you think the phrase “if the salt loses its saltiness” means?

You Are the Light of the World

- What does it mean to be the light of the world?
- What is the implication of putting (or not putting) our light under a bowl?

While there are several thoughts and truths that salt and light signify, one thing is clear, salt and light do not exist for their own sake but that of others. Hence among other things Jesus is teaching here, He is also saying that we as believers do not exist for our own sake alone but for the sake of others - the world. He further makes it clear that the quality of our Christian walk has a direct effect on the world we live in. The world desperately needs believers to be in their best state; to be the saltiest salt and the brightest light they can be.. In this breakout session, we are going examine three critical factors that enhance our ability to live for God’s purpose: living for the sake of the world.

SESSION ONE

KNOWING GOD—ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

We Owe the World an Encounter with God – Bill Johnson

We have just learned that in order to live for the sake of the world, we must be the best version of ourselves. The world needs our salt in its saltiest state and our light in its brightest form. We are now going to look at one of the fundamental factors that makes the best of every believer.

The best believer is the one who has truly encountered God. To encounter God is to know God through personal knowledge. It is to experience God in such a way that He is real to you; to the extent that you can trust Him, hear Him, and speak to Him as a real person. This is different from knowing about or of God. It is possible to know so much about God without “knowing Him.” For example, it is possible to know Psalm 23, without knowing the Shepherd. It is possible to memorize the entire 1 Corinthians 13 without knowing the God who is love.

To illustrate this, let us look at the life of Samuel from the passage below:

1 Samuel 3:1-7 “The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions. 2 One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, “Here I am.” 5 And he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” But Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.” So he went and lay down. 6 Again the Lord called, “Samuel!” And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” “My son,” Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.” 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

To understand this in context, you must know the story of Samuel (1 Samuel chapters 1 through 3). Samuel was conceived by a miracle. The LORD knew Samuel even before he was born. His mother, Hannah was a woman of faith and prayer who prayed him into existence. After he was weaned, she brought him to live permanently in the Temple with Eli, the High Priest. He grew up in the house of God, helping Eli and serving in the Temple. Samuel was a godly and obedient boy, serving God wonderfully. He had the fear of God and did not join the children of Eli to do evil.

However, Samuel continued serving in the Temple faithfully, innocently, and without knowing the God he was serving in a real and intimate way. Verse seven of the passage above says, “Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.” Knowing the Lord in this sense includes, but goes beyond, mental awareness or religious observance. It means Samuel did not yet have a personal relationship with Him, did not know His ways, was not walking with Him and hence could not step into God’s plan and purpose for his life.

Unfortunately, this is the state of many believers today. Yes, many believers are vaguely familiar with God, have an idea of what He is like, know a few scriptures here and there. Some may even be able to quote many scriptures, but do not have a real, personal, experiential, and robust knowledge of Him. Without knowing God, we cannot be the best version of ourselves. We cannot truly be salt and the light.

SESSION ONE

KNOWING GOD—ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

IV. Knowing God requires God revealing Himself to us.

- This explains why so many people we read about in the bible constantly put the desire to know God as a major priority in their prayer life.
- Apostle Paul Says: *“that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,”* *Philippians 3:10 (NKJV)*
- Moses prayed in *Exodus 33:13 “ Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You.”* And we read in Psalm 103:7 that his prayer was answered: *“He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts unto the children of Israel.”*
- David was another man that pursued the knowledge of God. One of his prayers is found in *Psalm 63, “O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. 2 So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. NKJV*

V. Knowing God is a continuous process – we must grow in the knowledge of God.

- This is just like knowing a person; the more we interact with them, the more we know them.
- *2 Peter 3:18 “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”*

VI. Knowing God is the only way to truly know ourselves and to be what God has called us to be.

- We are created in the image and likeness of God, hence the more we know God, the more we know ourselves in the light of God. *Psalm 36:9 “For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.” NIV*
 - When we know God, we are able to truly manifest ourselves as His sons and daughters. *Romans 8:19 “For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.” Daniel 11:32 “.... but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.” NKJV*
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SESSION TWO

DISCOVERING AND MAXIMIZING YOUR POTENTIAL

As we learned in the first session, the essence of living for the sake of the world is in re-presenting God to the world around us. We as Christ's followers have the greatest privilege of re-presenting God to the world around us. The same way Jesus was the expressed image of the Father to us (Hebrews 1:3), we become His image to the world.

We also learned that this must start by knowing God personally. When you know God and "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8), nothing else can satisfy you again. Another important thing that happens in knowing God is that you get to truly know yourself in the light of God. The last point we discussed in Session 1 says that "knowing God is the only way to truly know ourselves and to be what God has called us to be". It is in knowing God that we discover our purpose in life and the potential, and possibilities God has placed inside of us. This is what allows us to truly shine as light in the world and make the most impact.

We can see this same line of thought in Paul's apostolic prayer for the Ephesians church in Ephesians 1:17- 18:

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people," NIV.

Knowing God is followed by knowing our calling, and then His glorious inheritance in us. As we discover our purpose in Christ, we learn how to maximize our potential in life.

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

What is Potential?

One definition of the word "potential" says it is "what you can do but have not yet done. What you are capable of but have not yet accomplished." However, we must be careful not to think this means reaching our potential based solely on our own efforts. This is not what we are saying here, it is about surrendering yourself to God and letting His will be done through us on earth as it is in heaven. God loves you and has great expectations for you. When you develop and use what He has given you, whether you think it is big or small, you are developing the potential He created in you and living for the sake of the world.

We can better define potential this way: Potential is how far you can go, not alone, but with God. Here is what the Amplified Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:10: *"For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]."*

Let's look at a few important keys to maximizing our potential.

I. You must be convinced that there's so much in you and you were created for a bigger purpose. Every believer is God's handwork, created with great potential to do great works for Him. People who believe this will live their lives differently. God created everyone with a purpose and equipped us with everything we need to fulfill our purpose.

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Question: *How differently do you think we will live our lives, if we believe and walk with the understanding that there is a bigger purpose in us?*

SESSION TWO

DISCOVERING AND MAXIMIZING YOUR POTENTIAL

II. Ask God for insight to understand and discover your purpose.

Remember we said that purpose is what you can do but have not yet accomplished. In other words, it is inside of you. Proverbs 20:5 says, *“The purposes of a person’s heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out.”*

Often our prayer should not be asking for things but to discover what He has placed inside of us. Notice the prayer of Apostle Paul, *“that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,”* This is one of the reasons God gave us the Holy Spirit: *“What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.” 1 Corinthians 2:12*

III. You must cultivate your potential:

Potential is like a seed. It is a hidden ability that needs to be cultivated. You must feed your potential with the fertilizer of encouragement and water it with hard work and determination. This is what Apostle Paul encourages his protegee, Timothy to do in 2 Timothy 1:6-7:

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (NKJV)

Corinthians 15:10 *“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.”*

Question: *What does it mean to stir up the gift of God and how can we do so?*

IV. You must guard your potential:

Our enemy, the devil, is a thief of potential. We know that his goal is to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). Hence, we must guard our potential jealously. It’s sad when potential is wasted through a life of sinfulness, carelessness, and lack of watchfulness. With all the wealth of your potential, you must be careful enough to guard and protect it.

Corinthians 4:7 *But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. (Christian Standard Bible)*

You must guard your potential: visions, dreams, purpose against transgression, discouragement, procrastination, failure, opinions, distractions, traditions, and compromise.

1 Timothy 4:16 *“Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.”*

SESSION TWO

DISCOVERING AND MAXIMIZING YOUR POTENTIAL

V. Step out and do something for others.

In his book, *Do Something! Make Your Life Count*, Pastor Miles Mcpherson said “*You want your life to count--but how? By choosing to DO Something for others.*” Apostle John tells us in 1 John 3:18 “*Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.*” It is not enough to desire, wish and pray to maximize our potential, we must step out and do something.

- This is why James warns us about doing the word: *James 1:22 “But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.” NLY*
- Doing something doesn’t have to be big, you can start small. “*Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin” Zechariah 4:10*
- *Luke 16:10 “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.”*
- Doing something doesn’t have to be complicated, start simple – fulfilling your purpose does not mean starting an organization, it means serving. Start somewhere and work your way up.
- If you are called to be an author, start blogging. If you want to lead a worldwide prayer ministry, start by leading a daily prayer. If you want to run for a political office, start by serving in a local organization in your municipality.
- Stop giving excuses. *Romans 12:11” Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically”*

SESSION THREE

LIVE FOR GOD'S GLORY

As we conclude this breakout session, let's look at what we have learned so far. First, we learned that as believers we are called to live for the sake of the world—as the salt of the earth and the light of the world. However, for this to happen, we must seek to become the best version of ourselves by seeking to know Him. The more we know Him, the more we discover who we are in the light of God. Since we are made in the image of God, it is by knowing God that we truly know ourselves.

The last thing we are going to talk about is to live for His glory. The more we truly know God, the more we discover our purpose and live it, the more we want to live for His glory. Living for God's glory is important because that is the ultimate purpose of our creation. Also, as we live for His glory, our capacity is amplified, and our potential is maximized.

Philippians 1:20 *“For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die.” NLT*

1 Corinthians 10:31 *“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”*

1 Corinthians 6:20 *“You were God's expensive purchase, paid for with tears of blood, so by all means, then, use your body to bring glory to God!” TPT*

Let's first of all examine the meaning of the word “glory”. The word “glory” as found in the bible was translated from the Hebrew word “kabod” in the Old Testament, and the Greek word “doxa” in the Old Testament. Kabod means to honor, to deem respectful, or to deem high or weighty. “Doxa” means magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity, majesty, a most glorious condition, or most exalted state. Hence, to live for God's glory means to live our lives in such a way that we make God magnificent, glorious, majestic, and exalted. I am sure you will agree that this is a tall order, but God does not ask us to do what He has not empowered us to do.

The big question is, how does one live a life that glorifies God? I don't think there is any question more significant a person can ask. The supreme purpose in life for any man or woman—for anyone who has ever been born into this world—is to glorify God. That is what living is all about. Glorifying God is the end result of the Christian life. Even our Lord Jesus lived His life on earth giving glory to the Father. He said in John 8:50 *“I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge.”* In the same way, Jesus in us is the Jesus glorifying the Father (Colossians 1:27). In the same way, our own glory is in seeing the father glorified in everything we do.

SESSION THREE

LIVE FOR GOD'S GLORY

I. Living for God's glory means not living for your own glory.

One of the temptations we face is to live for our own glory, given more credit and weight to ourselves more than we should, or assuming that we are the source of our own strength, greatness, and achievements. Doing this is confronting and challenging God. Isaiah 42:8 "I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images."

King Herod made this mistake in the bible. In Acts 12:32, he gave a powerful speech and the people said, "*This is the voice of a god, not of a man.*" "*Instantly, an angel of the Lord struck Herod with a sickness, because he accepted the people's worship instead of giving the glory to God. So, he was consumed with worms and died.*" We must be careful in giving glory to God.

- Even our Lord Jesus lived His life on earth giving glory to the Father. He says in John 8:50 "*I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge.*"
- We must keep the right perspective about who we are in relation to God.
- **1 Peter 1:24** For, "*All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall,*"

II. Living for God's glory means loving what God loves and hating what He hates.

As we begin to walk with God and know Him more and more, one of the things that will change is our love and desire. Our heart begins to align with His, things of God become attractive, and we begin to actually love the way of God and His righteousness. Passages such as Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" begin to feel more like a natural way of life to us.

Apostle John said when we love God, His commands becomes less and less burdensome. **1 John 5:3** "*In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,*"

Psalm 45:7 "*You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.*"

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 "*Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*"

SESSION THREE
LIVE FOR GOD’S GLORY

III. Living for God’s glory means doing His good works.

Just to be clear, the good work we are talking about here does not imply working for our salvation or for God’s acceptance (salvation is not by works), the good work we are talking about is the good work as a result of our faith. Jesus said that the purpose of our good work is to reveal God to the world, to bring glory to God.

Our good work is not showing off, but showing off our God, “let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

IV. Living for God’s glory means advancing His cause here on earth.

David in Psalms 34:3 says “Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.” (NKJV) The TPT version of Psalms 34:3 puts it this way; “Join me, everyone! Let’s praise the Lord together. Let’s make him famous! Let’s make his name glorious to all.” David is saying here that he is passionate about anything that makes God famous on earth. Are you passionate about making God famous on earth?

This is what it means to live for God’s glory. We must get involved in whatever makes Him famous. We know God’s cause includes salvation of souls, expanding the kingdom of God and seeing the glory of God in our society. As believers we must be part of that with our time, energy, and our financial resources.

V. Living for God’s glory means loving the world the same way God loves the world.

One of the key truths we know about God is that He loves the world. When we say God loves the world, it doesn’t mean He loves the world system or the way of the world. The world system itself is in enmity with God (James 4:4). But God loves the people of the world.

***John 3:16** “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

The people of the world are really victims of the world system. God loves the people of the world so much that He is willing to bridge the gap by sacrificing Himself to save the people from the world. In the same way He expects us to love the unsaved so much that we are willing to win them at all costs and bring them to Christ.

***Question:** What are other practical ways we can glorify God in our bodies and in our spirits?*

AHOW 2023 ANNUAL RETREAT - FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD

Theme Song | Prayer Points

For the Sake of the World - Bethel Music and Brian Johnson

I'm laying down my life, I'm giving up control
I'm never looking back, I surrender all
I'm living for Your glory on the earth

This passion in my heart, this stirring in my soul
To see the nations bow, for all the world to know
I'm living for Your glory on the earth

For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me
Light a flame in my soul for every eye to see
For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me

This passion in my heart, this stirring in my soul
To see the nations bow, for all the world to know
I'm living for Your glory on the earth

For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me
Light a flame in my soul for every eye to see
For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me

For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me
Light a flame in my soul for every eye to see
For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me
Like a fire in me

For every knee to bow down, for every heart to believe
For every voice to cry out, burn like a fire in me
For every tongue to confess that You alone are the King
You are the hope of the earth
Burn like a fire in me

For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me
Light a flame in my soul for every eye to see
For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me

For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me
Light a flame in my soul for every eye to see
For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me

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For the sake of the world burn like a fire in me

Personal Prayer Points

1. Father, thank you for the privilege to attend 2023 retreat and to be part of what you are doing in this season.
2. Lord, I ask you to do something new in my life during this retreat; touch me and speak to me, let me experience you this year like never before.
3. Lord, create in me a genuine hunger for you, help me to seek your face with all my heart during this retreat. Help me to be sensitive to what you are doing and to respond appropriately. Revelation 2:29
4. I pray that during this retreat, I will have a unique divine encounter with you that will transform me and take me to a higher level than I have never been before.
5. Lord, give me the spirit of consecration so I can focus on you wholly. Help me to overcome every distraction the enemy may bring my way. Psalm 16:8
6. As your servants speak, I don't want a generic word, I want a specific Rhema Word tailored to me and my situations. Psalm 62:11
7. Lord, I pray for everyone attending this year's retreat that no one will leave this place empty handed. Everyone will experience a divine touch and no one will leave the way they came.

Unless otherwise noted Scripture quotations are from the New International Version (NKJV)

Agape House
OF WORSHIP

2024

Abow *Retreat*



THUR. JULY 25 TO SAT, JULY 27

SAVE THE

Date