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LESSON 3

- 1. How is worship fragmented when only one Person of the Trinity is emphasized in theology (pages 41 through 43)?** When only one person of the Trinity is emphasized we will not get the full picture or story of God and His desires for humanity. According to the author on page 42, “When the themes are presented without creation and without God’s incarnation into our creation to re-create it, God’s whole story is reduced to individualism.” Fragments of a story of thing are just pieces of it its not the entire thing. If we just have pieces of the story and focus solely on that one piece we will never get a full understanding of what we have. In order for us to not have a fragmented view about God we must look at the story as a whole, and see how it all works together for the world.
- 2. What does “remembrance” (as in “Do this in remembrance of Me”) mean in Judaeo-Christian thought (p. 43)?** As stated by the author in the book on page 43, “Biblical remembering brings God’s saving events to mind, body, and soul. Biblical remembering makes the power and the saving effect of the event present to the worshipping community.” When Jesus says “do this in remembrance of me,” He’s not just saying to not forget but in the remembering and the symbols use in this act of remembering the Spirit of God is at work through our faith. Something spiritual is happening not just in us individually but in our community.
- 3. How does worship call us to live in imitation of Christ (page 45)?** Worship calls us to live in imitation of Christ because Jesus’ while on earth was pure worship. He lived on earth in a way that glorifies and honor the Father in heaven, He lived perfectly as He

walked among us and its only through His Spirit are we able to live such lives of worship. As we yield our lives to the Spirit of God in us, we can't live any other way but as Jesus lived. Holy Spirit will not direct us to be or act any other way other than Jesus because He is perfect and its through Him we're able to live and serve God in spirit and in truth.

- 4. Jewish children are admonished that a wise child considers each celebration of Passover to be his or her own personal salvation story, not an intellectual “remembering” of something that happened to someone else, long ago. How does that understanding apply to our faith as we celebrate the saving death of Christ and partake of Holy Communion (pages 44 and 45)?** We can apply this understanding to our faith because Jesus' sacrifice is personal and general, meaning its for you as an individual and for the world as a whole. This time of reflecting and remembering brings us to our own sins, the wrongs we have done and knowing that Jesus paid the price took my debt and pardoned me. I should have been the one to suffer for my wrongs but Jesus out of His love for me was beating, ridiculed, nails in feet and hands, crown of thorns on His head, pierced in His side etc. All this was done to Him for me, as Jesus hung on the cross He hung there for me. Our salvation story of how Jesus saved us as individual from a life of death and darkness, will cause us to develop a closer and personal relationship with God.
- 5. Why did the Blessed Virgin Mary say, “My soul magnifies the Lord” (page 46)? Was this a prideful statement or glorifying of her? What does Mary's statement of worship mean to you and why is it important to us as Christians? Compare to Hannah's acceptance of her pregnancy in the Book of Judges.** Mary's statement “My soul magnifies the Lord,” is not a prideful statement but one of joy and honor to God for

what He has done. In this statement she made it clear whom she glorifies and praises for what is going to happen to her. Her life, her being lifts up God in all His glory and power for only He could cause such thing to happen to her. All she was about to experience was not about her but it was for the glory and honor of God. It is important as Christians that no matter the great and wonderful things God does in our lives it is all about God. Our lives our emotions should magnify Him as Mary's did, not get caught up in ourselves and what God has done but get caught up in who God is and the greatness of God. Hannah in 1 Samuel 1:18, said after receiving a blessing from Eli the priest, "Let your maidservant find favor in your sight." Hannah didn't just run away in excitement and joy but ended her time at the temple by asking God for favor. Although Eli told her that God has answered her prayer, her response to God was may I find favor in your sight, knowing how mighty and great God is, she hopes that she will find favor in His sight. The focus was not on Eli or finding favor with Eli but with God. As Christians whatever we seek God for, we must always seek favor in what we're doing because without Gods favor or blessing on the situation it won't happen or be blessed.