



ACTS Community of Lubbock Newsletter



ADORATION

by Dick Walsh



ACTS stands for ADORATION, Community, Theology, and Service. The ACTS Core of the ACTS community asked me to provide information concerning ADORATION for the ACTS community newsletter. I participate in the ADORATION program at St. John Neumann Catholic Church. About seven years ago I volunteered to accept the ADORATION HOUR of 6:00 AM TO 7:00 AM on Thursday mornings for the St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

After a few early Thursday mornings I knew I needed to seek help to maximize my love and time for Adoration. I prayed that the HOLY TRINITY would intervene and come to my rescue.

My wife knew that I needed help and she knows that reading Christian books is a favorite with me. "BOOM"! My wife bought me two books. One really caught my attention. The title, "Holy Hour Meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ; "EUCHRISTIC ADORATION" BY Charles M. Murphy.

I have prepared some information for those that who might wish to review and or purchase

the paperback book and other spiritual tools. Toward the back of this document, you will find information on the web sites.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the King of Glory, respectful silence in the presence of the "ever greater" God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications."

Charles M. Murphy, author of the book EUCHARISTIC ADORATION says this: It is adoration that stills us, attunes our hearts to the voice of God, and enlightens our eyes with the vision of charity. In the words of the Holy Father, Adoration is the remedy for the "faith fatigue" so many Christians are experiencing today.

THE BOOK: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

HOLY HOUR

ON THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

OF CHRIST, BY Charles M. Murphy

Ave Maria Press Notre Dame, Indiana

SOME HIGHLIGHTS ABOUT THE BOOK

How to Make a Holy Hour /Before the Blessed Sacrament

Preparation

Adoration

Conclusion

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

- 1: My God my God, why have you forsaken me?
- 2: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.
- 3: Today you will be with me in paradise.
- 4: Father into your hands, I commend my Spirit.
- 5: Woman, this is your Son. Son, this is your mother.
- 6: I THIRST.
- 7: It is finished.

SPIRITUAL RESOURCES FOR ADORATION

The Spiritual Book Club: (Catholic publications)

www.avemariapress.com/spiritual-book-associates/

I have been a member of this book club for more years than I can remember. It is my favorite resource for maintaining my spirituality.

The Word Among Us:

www.wau.org

This monthly booklet is a great resource for all Catholics. It has the daily Mass readings, meditations, articles on saints, encouragement, and reviews of books. I use this daily, especially in MASS, adoration and prayer group.

Eucharistic Adoration: Book

www.avemariapress.com

Utilizing these SPIRITUAL RESOURCES, as shown above, has improved my Adoration time by expanding the ways I pray, as well as the power and effects of my prayers.

Adoration has provided me with the Grace from the HOLY TRINITY, opened my heart, fed my soul and improved my prayers. I will always be thankful and will continue to get closer to Christ and those with whom I come in contact. That is you. I sincerely hope and pray that you will use this information to help you with your Adoration time.

[Click Here For additional resources \(Support your Local Bookstore\)](#)



Brother John's
Catholic Books & Gifts

Community



"...A community needs a soul if it is to become a true home for human beings. You, the people must give it this soul."

John Paul II

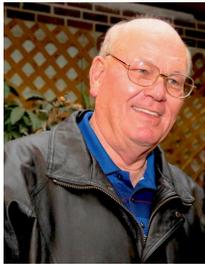
Scripture

- Genesis 2:18
It is not good for man to be alone
- Genesis 4:8-15
I am my brother's and sister's keeper.
- Leviticus 25:23-43
What you own belongs to the Lord and is given for the good of all.
- Jeremiah 7:5-7
If you act justly with one another, God will dwell in the land.
- Micah 6:6-8
Act justly, love kindness, walk humbly with God.
- John 15:12-17
This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.
- Acts 2:43-47
Life among the believers.
- Romans 12:4-8
We are one body, individually members one of another.
- Hebrews 10:24-25
Rouse one another to love and good works.

- James 2:14-17
Our faith is dead if we ignore others in need.
- 1 Peter 4:8-11
Serve one another with the gifts you have received.
- 1 John 3:16-18
We ought to lay down our lives for one another.
- 1 John 4:19-21
Those who love God must love their brothers and sisters.

Theology

by Tom Madigan



We generally tend to define "theology" as the study of God. We study the Bible, which is certainly a good thing, but how much deeper does learning about God go? Perhaps we should look at learning about Our Creator by learning to love. By knowing God we grow in love. We gain awareness of all that he has done for us and all that he continues to do for us. We are creatures made in his image. So we learn about ourselves by learning scripture, by focusing on his relationship to us.

He loves us so much he had his Son die for us. Are we living up to what he desires of us? All we have to do is love him in return. Although none of us will ever know all about God in our present life, we can all get closer to him by building a strong relationship with his Son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. After all, we are preparing ourselves for the next life. Jesus teaches us how to live in this world to prepare ourselves for the next. This life we currently live will come to an end; the next will be for an eternity with God if we learn, understand and follow the example Jesus has taught us about salvation. We are saved if we choose to follow Jesus. If we love and live using Jesus as "The Way" to live, we learn about ourselves and the choices we need to make to join all the saints in heaven. All it takes is learning Jesus' way and following it. There is a sign on a road in Lamesa, Texas that reads, "Eternity is hell without Jesus". Get to know Jesus well; follow his example and teach yourself to be like him. Be with Him for eternity and not separated from Him eternally.

Service

by Kerry Siders



"Eternal God, who are the light of the minds that know you, the joy of the hearts that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you: grant us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, Whom to serve is perfect freedom, in Jesus Christ our Lord." Saint Augustine

Service or "works" goes back to the question of some - "faith alone" vs. "faith and works" for our salvation. The simple answer is that we are saved by grace (Ephesians 2:8), and not by works. However, one has to remember that it is not enough to simply say "I believe", and then do nothing. The bible says, "Not everyone who

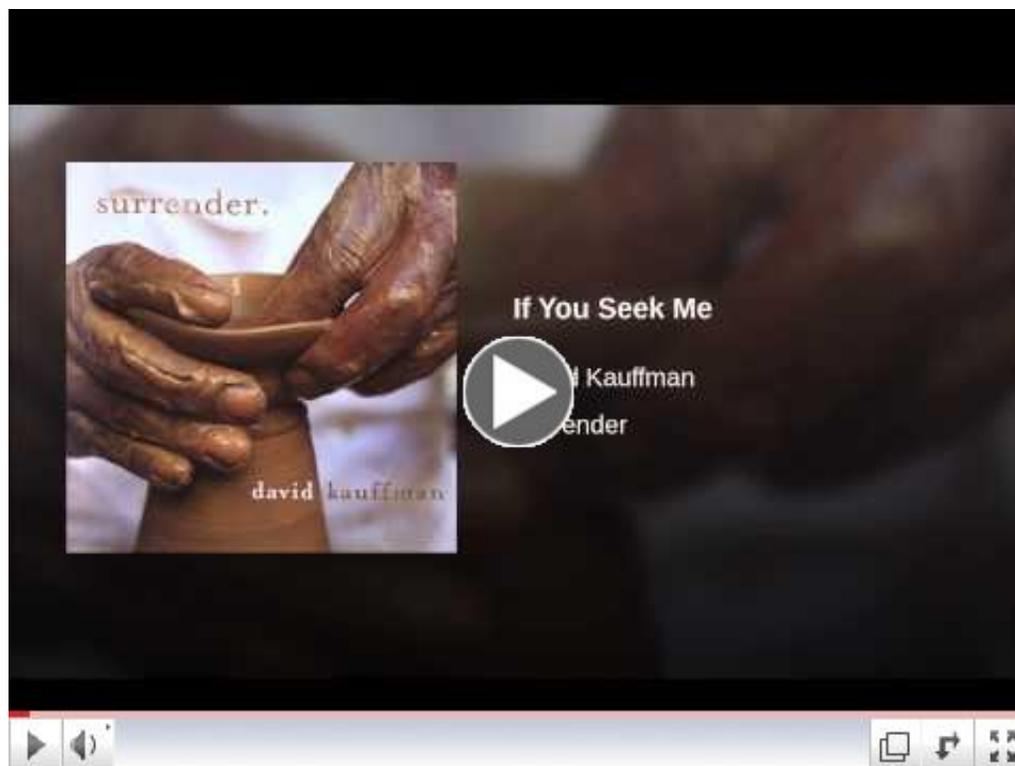
says Lord, Lord, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but rather he who does the will of my Father" (Matthew 7:21) Therefore, it must be assumed that works are indeed a necessary component of one's faith. Too many people think that faith means giving God lip service only ("This generation honors me with their lips, while their heart is far from me", Matthew 15:18), rather than actually doing good deeds for others.

In the story about Judgment Day, (Matthew 25:31-46) where Jesus separates the sheep from the goats, the only questions that Jesus asks the multitude concern works: Did you feed the hungry? Did you clothe the naked? Did you give a drink to the thirsty, etc? Just as it's not enough to tell someone that you love them, and never do anything for them, it's also true of your faith relationship with Jesus. When all is said and done, we are nothing more than servants of God (Romans 6:22). Any servant has much work to do.

So what do we do? No doubt we as a community of ACTS love to apply that service to our ACTS needs. This is a beautiful thing and should never be discouraged. But we should always be reminded that ACTS teaches and reminds us how to serve others. These "others" are our Parishes, CCE teacher, ARISE, parish council, Knights of Columbus, the Diocese, other Christian Communities, foreign missions, prisoners, patients in hospitals, the needy, sinners, and on and on...

We have to listen to God, he will tell us who He wants us to serve. As we are being Christ to others we serve, we are serving Him.

Thank God for ACTS, as it is a great tool to help us serve all.



David Kauffman

David Kauffman is a prolific artist, whose works touch and inspire people worldwide. He is the founder and creative director of Good For The Soul Music, based in San Antonio, Texas. Kauffman is a songwriter and recording artist, screenwriter and movie producer, and husband and father whose creations are described as "good for the soul." Growing up

with liturgical music in one ear and pop music in the other, Kauffman has spent three decades on a faith journey that has grown from a personal pursuit to a full-blown mission to create music that touches hearts, feeds souls and influences lives.



[Click Here to Visit Good for the Soul Music Website to order CD's or Concert Information](#)



Rudy Castillo Bermea
Lubbock Acts Editor
806-778-1288
