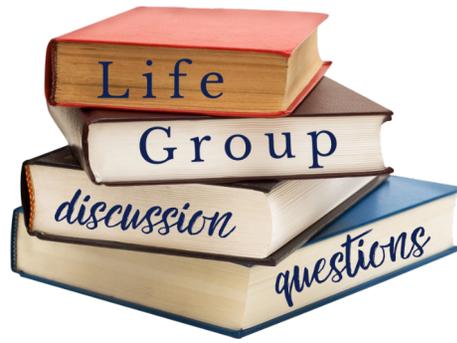


OPENING DISCUSSION

Before listening to the sermon, had you given much thought to the crowds during the ministry of Jesus?

How do you now consider the crowds and the role they played during the time of Jesus?



SERMON

Jesus demonstrated His care for the crowds by caring for their needs (i.e., the feeding of thousands of people as recorded in John 6:1-13). The Bible also reveals how Jesus cares for His church. Ephesians 5:29 says, "After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church" (NIV). How have you experienced God's care? How has God faithfully provided for the needs of your life?

Read John 11:38-44. Imagine what it must have been like to witness Lazarus being raised to life by Jesus (after being dead for four days)! It is no wonder the people *continued to bear witness* (John 12:17). After Jesus Himself rose from the dead after dying on a cross for the forgiveness of sins, He said the following before returning to heaven: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8 ESV). What do you think it meant for a Christian in the first century to be a witness of Jesus? What do you think it means for a Christian today to be a witness of Jesus?

APPLICATION

Consider some of today's crowds and your interaction with them:

Family (everyone all together) ...

School one goes to ...

Company one works at ...

Church one belongs to ...

Society one lives in ...

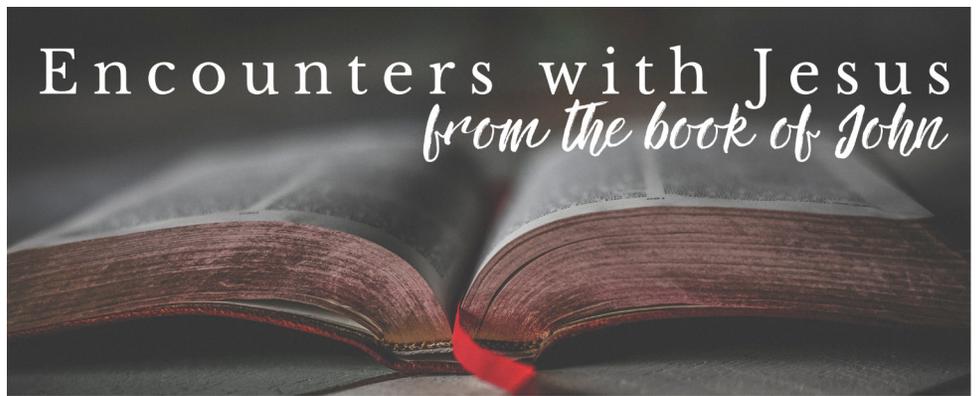
Media one hears from (movies, television, radio, internet, social media, etc.) ...

Other "crowds" in one's life ...

How have the above crowds influenced you (either good or bad)?

If you are a Christian, how has it been for you to live out your faith among the different crowds?

Not a part of a Life Group at North Hills? Visit the church website and check out the different groups currently meeting. When you see one that interests you, click on the link provided and know that everyone will be glad you came!
<https://church.north-hills.org/connect/small-group-ministry>



NORTH HILLS CHURCH

- JULY 11, 2021 -

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him." **John 12:12-19**

"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them." Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. **John 12:27-41**

NORTH HILLS CHURCH

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Summer Sermon Series: Encounters with Jesus

The Crowds

John 12:12-19, 27-41

BIG IDEA:

There will always be _____ in life and they often play a bigger role than we think.

1. An _____ of the crowds in the book of John:

Jesus did ministry _____ the crowds.

The crowds _____ to Jesus.

The crowds _____ Jesus.

The crowds _____ Jesus.

Jesus _____ for the crowds.

The crowds _____ the actions of others.

2. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead _____ to bear _____.
(John 12:12-19)

3. The crowds consisted of people who believed and _____
_____ in Jesus. (John 12:27-41)

RESPONSE:

What role are the crowds playing in my life and how am I _____ the crowds?

Read the entire Bible chronologically in a year

See the church newsletter for this week's Bible reading passages

(<https://church.north-hills.org/newsletters/weekly-newsletter>)

Interim Worship Leader and Interim Children's Ministry Director

On Sunday, July 4, Pastor Daniel provided a status update on the current open positions at North Hills Church (our longstanding Worship Leader, Josh Bingtan, and Children's Ministry Director, Melissa Halal, are getting married and we had a special Luau Wedding Shower and Going Away Party for them on June 27). If you missed what Pastor Daniel shared with the congregation on July 4, we invite you to visit the North Hills YouTube channel and watch his announcement at the end of the worship service (start watching at the 1 hour and 56 minutes point of the service). To visit the North Hills YouTube channel, simply go to youtube.com/c/northhillschurchvallejo.

As we seek God to fill both positions, the first step is to hire an Interim Worship Leader and an Interim Children's Ministry Director. If you are a church member at North Hills and you would like to apply for one of the positions, email the following information to church@nhcsvallejo.org by **July 24**: (1) a letter of interest (please share why you are applying for the position), and (2) a resume including ministry experience, job history, and education. Both positions will be hired for a period of six months (or less if a person is hired long-term for the position beforehand). For details about both positions, see below.

Position responsibilities for the Interim Worship Leader (10 hours per week)

- » Coordinate with the Congregational Pastor in planning and providing leadership in corporate worship, especially related to leading the Worship Team on Sunday morning.
- » Lead Worship Team practice every Thursday night and rehearsal every Sunday morning.
- » Meet weekly with the Congregational Pastor to evaluate the previous Sunday Worship Service and plan for upcoming Sunday Worship Services.
- » Coordinate with the Congregational Pastor to select appropriate songs four weeks in advance (according to the Sunday Worship Service theme for each week).
- » Send songs to the ProPresenter Team Leader to ensure slides are created and approved through the North Hills Public Content process.
- » Schedule Worship Team members four weeks in advance, keeping in mind song selection and team chemistry.
- » Oversee and work with the volunteer Sound Team Leader.
- » Ensure serving attendance is taken utilizing Elexio Church Management Software.
- » Keep the stage and Green Room clean and organized.
- » Communicate with the Congregational Pastor about the needs of the Worship Team and any supplies that need to be ordered.

Position responsibilities for the Interim Children's Ministry Director (5 hours per week)

- » Arrive at 8:30 a.m. every Sunday to prepare ministry rooms for teachers.
- » Schedule and support volunteers for both Sunday School and Children's Worship.
- » Manage check-in/check-out process for children.
- » Ensure ministry/serving attendance is taken utilizing Elexio Church Management Software.
- » Follow up with all visitors (and their family) within 48 hours.
- » Meet weekly with the Congregational Pastor to evaluate the previous Sunday and plan for upcoming Sundays.
- » Communicate with the Congregational Pastor about the needs of the Children's Ministry and any supplies that need to be ordered.

Note: there is a possibility the number of hours for this position will increase to 20 over time.

Communication Cards and Offering Envelopes

At the **main entrance** and **senior parking lot entrance** of the Worship Center, you will find special new boxes when you leave today. If you have filled out a Communication Card or Offering Envelope, please insert them into either of the boxes. Please note the boxes will remain out for 20 minutes after the service.