

### **Taking It Home:**

- This week during your prayer time, ask the Lord to reveal the names of people to you for inviting them to the Easter service. After you have your list of names, pray for those names daily.
  
- Talk as a family and share what is restricting you from being “freed-up” to be more available for the kingdom of God? What are the restrictions that hold you back? Pray & ask God for wisdom to help free yourselves from the restrictions so you can fulfill your dream of being more available.
  
- Meditate on Psalm 96:1-13 this week. Each day read several verses of Psalm 96 and interpret them. Daily, write down what you think God is revealing to you through those Scriptures.

For a restatement of Pastor Matthew’s sermon points, visit [pastormatthew.net](http://pastormatthew.net) and click on the “Write This Down” tab.

Living Above and Beyond

Raising Up Worshippers Who Live Above and Beyond

1 Chronicles 16

Dr. Matthew R. St. John

Bethel Church

January 29, 2012

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## **Raising Up Worshippers Who Live Above and Beyond**

Notes:

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit [www.bethelfc.com](http://www.bethelfc.com).

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of January 29, 2012

1 Chronicles 16

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**Quick Review:** As a response to what God has done in our lives, we desire to “declare His glory among the nations,” that the world may worship Him with the rejoicing with which we rejoice, elevating His greatness and affirming His fame. Because all of God’s work is “good,” we want to tell His story so others may worship Him with joy and gladness.

## My Story:

- Share an experience or a memory of one of the most exhilarating, awe inspiring and majestic scenery you’ve ever witnessed with your own two eyes. After being “in awe” of the glorious sight, what were your immediate thoughts about what you were seeing? By chance did your thoughts include the majesty and splendor of God?
- Have you ever thought about your potential for “doing good things” for needy people around the world if your financial obligations were “freed up,” and money wasn’t a hindrance? Share your “DREAM” about how you would serve the Lord if money wasn’t an object?

## A Review of weeks 1 – 3 of “Above & Beyond”

Look back on previous Homework notes with the review questions.

- **Week 1:** Deut. 26:5-10 - God has freed us from the “mess” of our sin. He has given us salvation and every blessing of life comes from Him. We owe God everything!
  - What is your personal testimony of salvation? Share about what God has done for you?
- **Week 2:** Deut. 26:10 – Because of His goodness the Lord has invested into our lives, we intentionally surrender ourselves fully & wholly, offering to Him the very best of everything from our hearts & lives (First Fruits).
  - What has God given to you? What are “First Fruits?” What is stewardship? What was God’s expectation of the Hebrew believers? What is God’s expectation of believer’s today?
- **Week 3:** Deut. 26:10-12 – We extravagantly rejoice and celebrate the goodness of God by praising & worshipping Him.
  - How can believers tangibly demonstrate genuine praise and worship to God today?
  - Why are believers today encouraged to rejoice and celebrate God with the purity of their hearts and offerings of First Fruits?

## Week #4 – Raising Up Worshippers who Live Above & Beyond”

- Pastor Matthew made this quote in his message: “*Our extravagant rejoicing (Bethel Church) should create a loud echo that rallies a deaf and broken world to bend a knee & heart to worship God.*” What did Pastor Matthew mean by that statement? What are some of the ways you see Bethel Church declaring the Gospel of Jesus to Fargo-Moorhead and our surrounding region?
- Read 1 Chronicles 16:34-35 & Psalm 96:1-13. When the unsaved trust Jesus Christ as Savior we call that Life Transformation (salvation). What can you and I personally do in our “realm of influence” to awaken a deaf and broken world so they can trust Jesus Christ as Savior? How does life transformation occur? (Cf. Romans 10:14-17; 10:8-10; 12:1-2).
- Read Psalm 96:1-13 and compare with 1 Chronicles 16:23-36. What are the obvious **key instructions** from the 1 Chronicles 16 passages and the Psalm 96 passages that you discovered in these very rich Scriptural texts? Do they speak personally to you? In what way are these Scriptures challenging you to respond? **Example:** 1 Chron. 16:23 – “*Sing to the Lord all the earth, proclaim good tidings of His salvation;*” Psalm 96:2 – “*Sing to the Lord, bless His name; proclaim good tidings of His salvation.*”
- **1 Chronicles 16:23-36** – Believer’s desire to tell the story of the splendor of God’s majesty by testifying God’s plan of redemption to **unsaved people**. Pastor Matthew mentioned that the target audience of 1 Chronicles 16:23-26 was for the Hebrew people to evangelize the Gentiles with the saving message of God! **READ 1 Chron. 16:23-25.** What are these Scripture verses asking believers to do? If you are a believer who is living “Above and Beyond,” what are God’s expectations for you? For Bethel Church?
- We certainly know that debt can bind an individual or a church so that the potential availability (leverage) for serving God is limited due to financial constraints. Do you personally have a “dream” of what it would look like to be “freed-up” so you’d be more available to serve the Lord? Share what you would personally need to be “freed-up” from so you’d be more available to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.
- Pastor Matthew mentioned that it is the “**Dream**” of the Bethel Church Leadership to be “freed up financially” to be in a position of “availability” to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in whatever the Lord has in mind for Bethel in the future. What did Pastor mean by that statement? What are some future ministry possibilities for Bethel Church that Pastor Matthew mentioned?