

## Ole Miss FCA Weekly Devotional: 1/11/10

*The Power and Passion of the Master Coach, Elliot Johnson*



### Thought of the Week:

God's Glory is Awesome

### Verse of the Week:

When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the Lord above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshipped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, "He is good, His love endures forever." 2 Chronicles 7:3

There has been plenty of glory in baseball's World Series. Who can forget Bill Mazeroski's home run in the bottom of the ninth to give the Pirates an incredible victory over the Yankees in the seventh game of the 1960 Series? How about Reggie Jackson's three home runs in three consecutive at-bats in the sixth game of the 1977 Series? Unforgettable! Or Kirk Gibson in 1988? With the Dodgers trailing by one run with two out in the bottom of the ninth, Gibby limped to the plate, worked the count to three and two, and hit a home run to win the game, 5-4! No true fan can forget Gibson limping around the bases while punching the air with a victorious fist!

Yet, for pure glory, no World Series highlight comes remotely close to our glorious heavenly Father. Our God is truly an awesome God. He reveals Himself to us in ways that are full of glory. No one has yet seen the essence of God, for He is Spirit. But whenever men have seen a manifestation of God's being, He has always been glorious to behold. We know Him to be glorious, or "full of splendor, magnificence and radiance." Everything about Him is glorious. All His attributes, His creation, His ways, His kingdom, and His Word are glorious in majesty. Wherever He is, there is glory. When He appeared to Moses on Mt. Sinai, His glory was like a devouring fire (Exodus 24:15-18). We know that in the heavenly city where the righteous will dwell, there is no need for the sun, because the glory of God provides the light (Revelation 21:10-11, 23). Everything about God is glorious!

God's glory is seen most clearly in the face of Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son! The Lord Jesus was bathed in the glory of God as He prayed upon the mountain (Luke 9:29, 32). Paul writes that God gave us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:6-7). He is the glorious revelation of the living God! He is God in the flesh, given so we can know what God is like! And most amazingly, He is changing us by His glory into the likeness of His glory! In 2 Corinthians 3:18, Paul says, "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." How awesome! As the moon reflects the sun, believers reflect the light of His glory! As we gaze upon Him, we actually become like Him, until one day we will be totally like Him, for we will see Him just as He is (1 John 3:2)! Only because of blindness caused by Satan do men turn from the light of God's glory to the lies of the evil one (2 Corinthians 4:4). No matter what circumstance you face, God can use it to transform you into His likeness. As Arthur Blessitt says in his book *Glory*,

If your business fails—the glory is there.  
Even if friends forsake you—the glory is there.  
When you are all alone,  
    and you feel you are in a vacuum,  
    you are not alone—  
    you are not in a vacuum—  
    the glory is there.

When the crisis of life  
Almost overwhelms you—  
When the unexpected disappointments  
    seem beyond explanation—the glory is there.  
Beyond reason, circumstances,  
Fear or pain—the glory is there  
    in abundance—the glory is there.  
Oh, Praise Him.

We are changed into the same image, from “glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord”—that is what it means to be filled with the Spirit! Changed by the Spirit to look like God—to live like Jesus! So when people meet you, they meet Christ living in you!

As people watch you perform, do they see you perform with the attitudes of the Lord Jesus?

Time Out:

- (1) What do each of the following verses tell us about the glory of God?
  - Numbers 14:21
  - Habakkuk 2:14
  - John 2:11
  - Romans 9:22-24
  - Ephesians 3:16
  - Philippians 4:19
  - 1 Peter 4:13-14
  - Matthew 25:31
  - Colossians 1:27
- (2) When you succeed in anything, to whom does the glory belong? Check the following verses as you answer.
  - Matthew 6:13
  - Philippians 2:11
  - Galatians 6:14
  - 1 Corinthians 10:31
  - Revelation 4:11
- (3) Can God receive glory when we fail? When we suffer? When we die? Check the following verses.
  - John 11:4, 40
  - John 17:1-5
  - 1 Peter 4:12-16
  - 1 Peter 5:10-11
- (4) What is the proper response to the glory of God (2 Chronicles 7:1-3)?