

Worship Brainstorming – Addendum February 2019 – Season of Epiphany

Monday, January 21, 2019

February 24, 2019: “The Greatest Showman” (2017) - Jeff Verry preaching

Inspired by the imagination of P. T. Barnum, The Greatest Showman is an original musical that celebrates the birth of show business & tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12: 21-27 (NIV)

¹²The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

¹⁴Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²²On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Synopsis: “This Is the Greatest Show (and It’s Here Right in Front of You)!” God is creating the Greatest Show and everyone has a part.

Felt need: To find courage to be who we are and live authentically even when others’ expectations are different

Visuals: Top hat, cane, trapeze, ringmaster related stuff, and image, right. (<https://www.rollingstone.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/the-greatest-showman-hugh.jpg?crop=900:600&width=440>)



Media:

- Opening song, “This Is the Greatest Show. Length: 2:43. With lyrics or singalong version <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEeEuaSJAtI>

- Film trailer. Length: 2:30.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=ir9QtXwC9vc

Related info:

- <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8676/movies-culture-and-faith>
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/greatest-showman-captured-american-imagination/>
- <https://jasminpatterson.com/2-powerful-faith-lessons-from-the-greatest-showman/> (cites numerous passages of related scripture)

Hand-out and related activity: Vintage “Admit One” circus tickets that say “The Greatest Show” and have room to write on. Invite people to write one of their gifts/talents on the ticket. Pass a top hat to collect the tickets.

Children’s time: Kids have to work together as a team with each child acting as a single body part (foot, leg, arm, etc.). The task is to walk a short distance and pick up an object of some kind.

Music:

- 9:00 am: #2223 “They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”; #2227 “We Are the Body of Christ”; #692 “Creator of the Stars of Night” (too old school???)
- 11:00 am: “If We Are the Body” (Casting Crowns); Can Brad or Michael sing “The Greatest Show” (reprise)?

Discussion points: