



Worship: The Epicenter of a Spiritual Life

MARK 12:30; JOHN 4:24

Who to Worship

WHO IS THE CENTER OF TRUE WORSHIP?

And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" Luke 4:8

... but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." Revelation 22:9

"I and the father are one." John 10:30

Where to Worship

WHERE DOES TRUE WORSHIP OCCUR?

"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." John 4:24

How to Worship

HOW DOES TRUE WORSHIP TAKE PLACE?

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe ... Hebrews 12:28

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL and with all your MIND and with all your STRENGTH." Mark 12:30

Passionately — "with all your HEART and with all your SOUL"

True worship is expressing your _____ to God by ...

1. Communicating "I love you" to Him.

"I don't want your sacrifices—I want your love; I don't want your offerings—I want you to know me." Hosea 6:6 (TLB)

2. Committing yourself completely to Him each day.

... present yourselves [completely] to God as those who have been brought from death to life ... Romans 6:13

Thoughtfully — "with all your MIND"

True worship is focusing your _____ on God by ...

1. Establishing a daily time to be alone with Him.

"Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage." Matthew 6:6a (MSG)

2. Developing a constant conversation with God.

Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! Psalm 105:4

Practically — "with all your STRENGTH"

True worship is using your _____ for God by ...

1. Serving, sharing, fixing and helping in practical ways.

Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. James 2:18

2. Seeing my efforts in every arena as service to the Lord.

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men ... Colossians 3:23

1. FOR REFLECTION ALONE: **PREPARE**



SMALL GROUP LESSON

- A. Review your sermon notes. In your own words, how would you summarize the “Big Idea” of this sermon?
- B. What is keeping you from being content in your circumstances right now? Describe how your lack of contentment can impact your desire to be compassionate toward others.
- C. Read John 4:24. What does Jesus mean when He says that those who worship God must worship Him “in spirit and truth?”

Now Read John 7:37-38. Worship comes from the overflow of the heart. What things do you tend to see flowing from your own heart? How does that show where the center of my worship is?

- D. In what ways are you planning to get to know God better so that your worship of Him is more spontaneous, just because of His character and not because of your circumstances?
- E. Take some time to worship the Lord. Praise Him for His attributes. Respond to what He has been doing in your life. Then thank Him that He can be known through His Word.

2. AT SMALL GROUP: **SHARE**

- A. Name some people the world considers to be spiritual. What do you think the world would say the word “spiritual” means?
- B. Before hearing the sermon, how would you have defined the word “worship”? What in the sermon has changed how you think about worship?
- C. Next to each of the three “how’s” of worship, write how you see them being a part of your own life.
 - passionately (*with your heart/soul*)
 - thoughtfully (*with your mind*)
 - practically (*with your strength*)
- D. Have someone read aloud Hosea 6:6 (The Living Bible) from the sermon notes. What does God want most from us? What will you be changing in your life in the next few weeks so that you get to know Him better?
- E. Close in prayer by asking God to help group members grow in their worship for Him. Praise God together that He is a God who wants to be known by us, and that we have His Word for that task.