

WORSHIP

EXPRESSING GOD'S WORTH

TEACHING NOTES

What is worship?

- Worship means to ascribe worth or value; to pour out our affections and love upon God. It involves expressing our love, adoration, gratitude, and thankfulness to God.

Why does worship look differently in different churches?

- There are many expressions of worship, and it can look differently at different churches. There are many forms, styles & traditions involved in worship.

What is important to know about worship?

- The most important factor in worship is God and realizing His preferences. God is searching for something:
 - “True worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks.” John 4:23 (ESV)
 - God is searching, looking, longing.
 - While we’re searching for our preferences, He’s searching for those who worship Him the way He wants to be worshipped—from the heart!

What does it mean to worship in spirit and truth?

- Worshipping from the spirit means we are worshiping from the core, the depths of who we are--the depths of our soul: where gratitude, passion, and affection flow.
- Worshipping in truth means to worship based on the truth of God’s word and what we know about Him.
- Spirit and truth means to worship Him with our mind and our heart.
- The Great Commandment: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.” Deuteronomy 6:5 (NKJV). We should love and worship Him with all that we are!

What are the many ways we can worship God?

- Songs/Singing
- Prayers
- Lifting our hands
- Bowing down
- Dance
- Tears

It’s our design:

- As human beings, it is hard-wired into our genetic code to be worshippers.
- Every culture worships because God designed worship into our human makeup.
- We worship in spirit and in truth.

Challenge yourself in how you worship God. Step forward and worship to the point of your discomfort. You were created to be a worshipper. You worship a God who loves you and has given so much to redeem you back to Himself.

MAKE IT YOUR OWN

Definition of Worship: To regard God with great extravagant respect, honor, or devotion.

Does God have preferences in worship?

Read John 4:23

What does it mean to worship God with all that I am?

Read Psalm 47:1, Psalm 63:4, Psalm 95:6-7, Psalm 96:1, Psalm 96:4, Psalm 134:2, Psalm 149:3, 1 Chronicles 16:23-31, 1 Chronicles 29:11, Matthew 22:37, John 4:24

Was I created to be a worshipper?

Read Psalm 150:6, Isaiah 25:1, Psalm 103:1, Psalm 71:8

How can I best engage God in worship?

1. Make worship a lifestyle, engaging in both private (personal) and corporate (church) worship settings.
2. Life can get hurried and busy, so prepare your heart ahead of time. Take a moment to pray and ready yourself for worship.
3. Ask God to help you focus on Him alone and minimize distractions.
4. Let your thoughts dwell on God's greatness, rather than your current struggles.
5. Engage God with all that you are, even if that is out of your comfort zone. Reframe your personal preferences to align with His.

God has everything, but He is still seeking one thing: your fully engaged, spirit and truth, worship. So, don't hold anything back!

Prayer:

Lord, You are worthy of my worship, adoration, and praise. Help me to grow in my ability to worship You greater and make worshipping You a lifestyle. I come alive in Your presence. Thank You for revealing Your preferences to me, God--it is my aim to please You and offer the worship You desire. You are worthy! In Jesus' name, Amen.