

Worship: For The Purpose Of Godliness

JANUARY 8, 2023

Worship

- “Worship the Lord your God.” (Matt.4:10)
- “Oh come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker.”
(Psalm 95:6)

Worship

- Jesus warns us against worshipping in vain.
- “This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. In vain do they worship me.” (Matthew 15:8-9)

Worship

- What is worship? What does it look like for us to be disciplined in it?
- God created us to worship and obey Him (Genesis 2:15, 1:27-28). It's who we are supposed to be; how we relate to God.

Worship Is Focusing On And Responding To God

- To worship God means to ascribe the proper worth to God, to magnify His worthiness of praise. He is worthy!
- The more we focus on God, the more we understand and appreciate His infinite worth.

Worship Is Focusing On And Responding To God

- **Definition: Worship is focusing on and responding to God.**
- How does the invisible God reveal Himself to us here that we might focus on Him?

Worship Is Focusing On And Responding To God

- First: He has revealed Himself generally through creation (Romans 1:20). GENERAL
- Second: He has revealed Himself specifically through His written Word and through His Son (Jesus Christ). SPECIAL

Worship Is Focusing On And Responding To God

- “If by means of **meditation** we will focus on the **person** and **work** of Christ as found in the Bible, we will understand more of the holy God, for Jesus has made him known.” See John 1:18.
- What does this look like? How can we focus on Jesus?

Worship Is Focusing On And Responding To God

- Elements of public worship: Bible reading, preaching, singing, prayer, giving, baptism, Lord's Supper.
- Elements of private worship: Bible intake, meditation, prayer.

Worship Is Done In Spirit And Truth

- “But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father **in spirit and truth**, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23-24)

Worship Is Done In Spirit And Truth

- True worship of God, in spirit and truth, is only possible by those who have the Holy Spirit.
- No one can say “Jesus is Lord” without the regenerating power and indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

Worship Is Done In Spirit And Truth

- What does it mean to worship God in spirit?
- To worship God from the inside out. (Heart)
- What does it mean to worship God in truth?
- As He is revealed in the Bible. And according to ways that He has given approval in Scripture.

Worship Is Done In Spirit And Truth

- Balance of worship: head and heart.
Emotion and thought.
- What happens when we are not balanced?
When we focus only on spirit (emotion)?
When we focus only on truth (thought)?

Worship Is Expected Both Publicly And Privately

- “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Worship Is Expected Both Publicly And Privately

- The core of the discipline of worship involves developing the habit of faithfully assembling with other Christians where the primary purpose is to worship God.

Worship Is Expected Both Publicly And Privately

- What does private worship look like?
- “There is no way that those who neglect secret worship can know communion with God in the public services of the Lord’s Day.” (Geoffrey Thomas)

Application

- Will you commit yourself to the Discipline of daily worship? For seven days a week.
- “If you will not worship God seven days a week you do not worship Him one day a week.” A.W. Tozer

Application

- Are you more disciplined to attend corporate worship or the regular practice of privately worshipping God?
- What steps can you take this week to improve your private worship? Your public worship?