



Worship

EXTRAVAGANT / POWERFUL / REVERENT

May 2023

Overview

What comes to mind when you think about worship? Is it a genre of music on your device? Is it the way we live every day of our lives? Is it just a bunch of songs we sing on Sunday? The truth is that worship is far deeper and more important than we could imagine. In God we find the one who is truly worthy of worship. He's the one our souls truly crave. And He's the one around whom the whole of heaven gathers in unceasing adoration.

We become like what we worship and so our worship of Jesus has a huge bearing on whether we're becoming more like Him. As we gather in Life Groups, let's learn to adore Jesus together and encourage one another to make time to adore Jesus alone.

Each week is based around passages from the Old and New Testament. We'll see how worshipping in the Old finds parallels with the worship of Jesus in the New.

Worship

Week 1 • 7 May 2023 • Extravagant

Key Scriptures: 2 Samuel 6:12-23; Mark 14:1-11.

1. What comes to mind when you think about worship?
2. Have a look at Mark 14:1-11:
 - a. What are the parallels with the story from David?
 - b. What does it teach about worship?
 - c. What challenges you about the woman's worship of Jesus and how could you respond?
3. David's celebration was over the presence of God in the city while the woman was grateful for how Jesus' had changed her life?
 - a. What are you rejoicing over today?
 - b. How can you direct that towards God in worship?

4. David danced with all his might - he danced like no one was watching because it was an offering before God only.
 - a. What would it look like for you to worship with all your might?
 - b. What holds you back? How much does what others think matter?
 - c. What is a step towards extravagant worship you can take today?

5. What are some simple ideas for how you could devote some time in Life Group to worship (it doesn't have to involve singing!)?

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Week 2 • 14 May 2023 • Powerful

Key Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 20:14-22; Acts 16:16-40.

1. What is the grandest thought you have had about God recently?
 - a. If this question is a struggle for you, what might need to change?

2. Have a look at Acts 16:16-40:
 - a. What does it teach about worship?
 - b. What was the impact of their worship?
 - c. What is a step you could take to respond to this learning?

3. Write down the big things that you're praying for. You could think about your own lives, the people in your world who don't know Jesus, or some issues in our city and across the world. Then instead of praying about them, offer them to God and spend some time adoring Jesus together knowing that worship is powerful!

Here are some ideas for worship:

- Sing songs together that express the greatness of God;
- Pray together directing your attention towards God rather than towards the needs; or,
- Read some passages about Jesus and use them as a basis to thank God in prayer together.
 - Philippians 2:6-11
 - Colossians 1:15-20
 - Revelation 1:12-20

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Week 3 • 28 May 2023 • Reverent

Key Scriptures: Joshua 5:13-15.

1. What is the most significant insight into worship for you through this series?
2. The commander of the army of the LORD says that he's not taking sides but that Joshua should join His.
 - a. What would change for you if you saw your life less about God joining and helping you and more about you joining Him?
3. Joshua found himself in the presence of God and therefore on holy ground.
 - a. Have you ever had an experience where you found yourself tangibly in God's presence where it felt like you were on holy ground. What was that like?
 - b. As believers, our bodies are holy ground because the Spirit lives in us. How should this affect the way you see and use your body?



4. Have a look at these passages of people bowing before Jesus (Matt 2:11; John 9:38; Matt 14:33; Matt 28:9, 17).
 - a. Why did people bow before Jesus in each of these scenarios?
 - b. What do you think the main takeaway for us should be?

5. Why not take some time to “bow” before Jesus together. You could take the opportunity to share communion together. Get some bread and juice and share together what you are grateful for Jesus having done for you. Then thank him together for those things in prayer. You could even practice what we’ve seen others doing and actually get on your knees together as you pray.