



PART 3-How to *Energize* Your Worship



Worship is all that we are, reacting to all that He is!

Worship is being occupied with God. It is also the movement of a soul toward God that has been moved upon by God. Worship is drawing close to a God who has given us everything. "Religion" teaches us to work our way closer to God so God will work Himself closer to us. However, God has already worked His way to us and poured out His blessing on us. Therefore, there is nothing to do but praise, worship, and serve Him all the days of our lives.

DISCUSSION

1. Why is worshipping God so important in the Christian life?

2. What might be some misconceptions about worship?

WHY ARE WE TO WORSHIP?

1. We are to worship because God **commands it**.

(Exod. 7:16 NIV) "Let my people go, so that they may worship me"

- **The primary reason God called us into the assembly of the church is that as a gathering of believers we might worship Him**

2. We are to worship because God **deserves it**.

(Eph. 1:12 NIV) "in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory."

(Isa. 43:7 NIV) "everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made"

3. We are to worship because God **put the urge in us**.

(Ps. 42:1-2 NIV) "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."

(Ps. 95:6-7 NLT) "Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our maker, for he is our God."

- **Worship is a universal urge, hard-wired by God into the very fiber of our being.**
- **If people fail to worship God, they will always find a substitute.**
- **Q: What kinds of substitutes has man created for worship?**

4. We are to worship because God **delights in us**.

(Ps. 147:11 NIV) "the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love."

- **We are important to God himself.**

HOW ARE WE TO WORSHIP?

1. We are to worship God **passionately**

(Mk. 12:30 NIV) "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"

2. We are to worship God **regularly**

(Ps. 86:3 NIV) "have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long."

(Ps. 89:16 NIV) "They rejoice in your name all day long; they celebrate your righteousness"

3. We are to worship God **accurately**

(Jn. 4:24 NLT) "For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth"

- **In spirit: worship is your spirit responding to God's Spirit.**
- **(Rom. 8:16 NIV) "The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children"**

- To worship in spirit is to worship from the heart, as opposed to formal, ceremonial, external worship by those whose hearts are not right with God (Matt. 5:18)
- In truth: we are worship God as he truly is based on the truth of the Scripture.
- We cannot create our own comfortable or politically-correct image of God.
- All true worshipers are sincere, but all sincere worshipers are not true. For example, there are devout, sincere worshipers of Allah or Krishna or Buddha or the Mormon god or the Jehovah's Witness god. But they are sincerely wrong, because they are not worshipping the only living and true God, who has revealed Himself in the Bible.

4. We are to worship God individually

(Matt. 6:6 NIV) "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. "

- **Q: Why does God want us to worship him in private?**
- **We are also to worship corporately (Heb. 12:28; Rev. 19:7)**

5. We are to worship God with singing.

(Ps. 33:1 NIV) "Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him."

(Ps. 100:2 NIV) "Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs"

6. We are to worship God expectantly

(Ps. 5:3 NIV) "In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly."

(Ps. 130:6 NIV) "I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning."

THE BOTTOM LINE

Our worship is to be filled with P-R-A-I-S-E

Resources used:

The Priority of True Worship (John 4:23-24), Stephen J. Cole <<https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-23-priority-true-worship-john-423-24>>