

## Worship

Worship - to honor God with extravagant love, affection and joyful obedience as a response to His goodness.

“He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.” Titus 3:5 (NLT)

### A. Three attributes of true worshipers:

#### 1. True worshipers become more and more like Jesus.

“Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.” Psalm 37:4 (NASB)

“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed... the Lord--who is the Spirit--makes us more and more like him.” 2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV/NLT)

Note: We become like those with whom we spend time.

“Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.” Proverbs 13:20 (NLT)

#### 2. True worshipers bear spiritual fruit.

“He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing... When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.” John 15:5,8 (NLT)

Note: True worship is turning your heart towards the Lord a thousand times a day.

Life Application: “In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:6 (NKJV)

“...the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control...” Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

“Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off! The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. But Paul shouted to him, ‘Stop! Don’t kill yourself! We are all here!’ The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and asked, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They replied, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.’ And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized.” Acts 16:25-32 (NLT)

#### 3. True worshipers joyfully obey God’s commands.

“If you love me, obey my commandments.” John 14:15 (NLT)

“And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.” Mark 12:30 (NLT)

“This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:17 (NLT)

“...go and make disciples of all the nations..” Matthew 28:19 (NLT)

Note: Obeying God almost always involves our attitude and actions toward others.

“But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.” James 1:22 (NLT)

### B. God is searching for true worshipers.

“...true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.” John 4:23-24 (NLT)

“The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.” 2 Chronicles 16:9 (NLT)

Life Application: “... let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:18 (NIV)

### ***Discussion Questions***

1. Read Mark 12:30. If true worship is a lifestyle, what does loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength look like in your life?
2. Have you ever found yourself talking, acting, or thinking like the people you spend time with? Why do you think that happens? Do you know someone who exhibits godliness through the way they talk, act, and think? Do they spend time with Jesus on a regular basis?
3. Read James 1:22. Why is it not enough to just know/memorize what the Bible says?
4. True worshipers obey God's commands. The three commands emphasized in the message are below. On a scale of 1-10 with 10 being excellent, rate yourself in each of the following areas:
  - “And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.” Mark 12:30 (NLT)
  - “This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:17 (NLT)
  - “...go and make disciples of all the nations..” Matthew 28:19 (NLT)
5. Read Proverbs 3:6. What does acknowledging the Lord in all your ways look like in your life?
6. Trees don't have to try really hard or stress themselves out to produce fruit. As their roots take in water and nutrients from the soil, fruit is a natural byproduct. Read John 15:5 and Galatians 5:22-23. What do these scriptures say about how spiritual fruit is produced in the life of a believer?