

Small Group Discussion – WORSHIP

Romans 12:1-2

A living sacrifice

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Quotes on Worship:

Worship = worth-ship (giving worth to something or someone)

John Piper: 'True worship is a valuing or a treasuring of God above all things'

Webster dictionary definition: 'Worship is to honour with extravagant love and extreme submission'

'We worship God authentically when we know him truly and treasure him duly – the acts of the mouth and the acts of the hands and feet.'

Other passages:

Matthew 21: 12-13

John 4: 20-24

1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us

Message Bible Translation of Romans 12:1-2

Place Your Life Before God

12 ¹⁻² So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Questions:

What is God saying to us?

1. What is worship?
2. Looking at the definitions of worship from the quotes above, where do you agree and/or disagree with these statements?
3. How do these definitions differ from your own definition of worship?
4. If Christian worship is giving worth to God, how can other things take the place of honour? Think about the three areas of money, time and effort.
5. What is the difference between *attending worship* and *living in worship*?

What are we going to do about it?

6. Do you have any stories to tell of how worship had been a catalyst for transformation in your life? Can any of these stories be shared in a church gathering?
7. Over this next week, is there one thing you can do to engage with a life of worship outside the church gathering?
8. What can lead me to adore Him more today than I did yesterday?