

Sharing Stories • RESONANCE
“On Worship”

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

1. We are all created in the image of God. How does this allow our very lives to become an act of worship?

2. How might a renewed understanding of our lives as an act of worship impact our spiritual understanding and the way we live?

3. How do you define worship? Do you agree or disagree with the definitions put forth in the video?

4. Who do you worship? Does the answer you give verbally match with what your words and actions reflect to others?

5. How do you worship? What are you doing physically and mentally when you are engaged in worship?

6. How do you engage in worship outside of a church worship service? Is it music? Rock climbing? Relational conversation? What helps you to engage in worship?

7. Why is it important to worship individually? Why is it also important to worship in community?

Disciplines for Practice:

1. Simplicity

Worship does not have to be an organized or complex endeavor. Worship is a gift from God and a response to who God is. Things as simple as sitting on the porch, walking through nature, daily chores, and conversations with others can all help us worship God if we are willing to seek God in every moment.

2. Solitude

Spending time alone with God is an important spiritual discipline to practice. How can we worship a God we refuse to spend any time alone with? Intentionally set aside some time each day to simply sit in God's presence. Maybe that means imagining you are walking into God's office or living room to have a conversation with God. Maybe that means sitting and opening your heart and mind to listen.

3. Plan, Pray, Participate, Pursue

Plan an intentional time for worship and prepare in order to best engage in worship. Pray for all those involved in whatever particular worship experience you are involved in. Actively choose to participate in worship. That may not look the same for each person, but open yourself to allow God to move through you as you worship. Pursue God in and after your designated time of worship. Don't relegate worship to one moment, but incorporate it in your life so that you can continually pursue God.

4. Thankfulness

Responding to God in worship becomes easier when we can recognize all we have to be thankful for in our lives, even in our most difficult moments. Practice thankfulness by thanking God every morning, as soon as you wake up. Some find that thanking God for ten specific things is a good way to start, but do what works for you.

Bible Passages to Consider:

1. Genesis 1 & 2
2. John 4:19-26
3. Colossians 3:14-17
4. Hebrews 13:15
5. 2 Kings 20:1-4
6. 2 Kings 5:1-18
7. Exodus 24
8. Isaiah 6:1-8

9. Mark 12:30-31
10. Romans 12:2
11. Acts 2:42
12. 2 Chronicles 5:11-14
13. Any of the Psalms

Additional Resources to Consider:

1. Seeking the face of God. J. Daniel Day, Nurturing Faith. Macon GA.
2. The Worship Architect. Constance M. Cherry, Baker Academic.
3. The Voice of our Congregation. Terry W. Yourk and C. David Bolin, Abingdon Press. Nashville.
4. Staying Alive. Mark Wingfield. Lucas Park Books. St. Louis, Missouri.
5. Essential Church. Thom S. Rainer and Sam Rainer. B & H Publishing,. Nashville, TN.
6. The Voice of the Congregation. Terry W. York and C. David Bolin, Abingdon Press. Nashville.
7. America's Worship Wars. Terry W. York. Hendrickson Publishers. Peabody Mass.
8. Encounter with the Holy, Barbara Day Miller, Alban Institute
9. Exploring the Worship Spectrum, Paul Basden, editor
10. Praying Twice, Brian Wren, Westminster John Knox Press

Personal Worship/Prayer Guide:

FYI - TTL: Father

You are Good
I need You
They need You
Thank You
In Jesus Name