

Created to Worship

Introduction: I want to share with you today what worship is, the importance of worship, how to worship and what our worship does. We were created to worship-Man's nature is to worship, but it is your choice if you will worship and whom you will worship. But God demands that we worship Him and Him alone. The devil would like to have our worship, in Matthew 4, he tempted Jesus with all the kingdoms of this world if he would bow down and worship him. Jesus response was very clear-Worship the Lord your God and Him alone shall you serve. Praise or worship is mentioned 332 times in the Bible. In Psalm 100:2 –he says come before His presence with singing-which shows protocol, to come into His presence, you must sing/worship. Music was created for the worship of God.

John 4:23: But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. 24 For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”

What is Worship?

- Worship- to pay homage, respect, to adore, esteem, magnify, revere, venerate or exalt
- The Hebrew word for worship is **shachah**-to bow, to stoop, to bow down before someone as an act of submission or reverence; to worship; to fall or bow down when paying homage to God. The primary meaning is “to make oneself low.” Psalm 99:5 -Exalt the LORD our God! Bow low before his feet, for he is holy.
- **Proskuneo** –the new testament word for worship is made up of 2 greek words: **pros**-means towards and **kuneo**-which means to kiss. So **Proskuneo** literally means to kiss towards.
- Worship is a response to a relationship with God-it involves fellowship with God, personal revelation from God to the individual-but basically it is the outpouring of inner thoughts to God often accompanied by emotional and expressive actions of the body.

The Body Language of Worship

- There are so many different ways we can express our worship to God. You may say I don't know how to worship or what to do.
- It is impossible to understand worship without relating it to an attitude of the body. Here are examples of the body language of worship that we see in the Bible and in our churches today.
- **Lifting Hands**- Psalm 63:4 says I will lift up my hands in your name-this demonstrates submission, surrender, dependence
Standing- Psalm 135:2 says you who stand in the house of the Lord- this demonstrates respect, honor and worth
Kneeling- Psalm 95:6 says let us kneel before the Lord our maker- this demonstrates humility, devotion and adoration

Shouting- Psalm 47:1 says shout to God with a voice of triumph-this demonstrates enthusiasm and joy

Singing in the Spirit- 1 Cor 14:15 says I will sing with the Spirit and I will also sing with the understanding-this demonstrates submission, sensitivity and love

Worship for WHO He is

- True worship comes from the heart, in love and adoration unto the Lord.
- When you worship you aren't talking to God about what is going on in your life, struggles, circumstances, your bills, your kids-you are just simply enjoying each others presence.

Example: Many marriages turn into verb marriages, the longer you are married you begin to only associate your spouse with what they do(they go to work, they clean the house, they cook, the do the yard work, they take out the trash....) and forget about when you were dating, or when you first met, before they DID all those THINGS for you...WHO was he/she to you? What made you love him/her? (example:old love letters) In the same way we forget to just worship Him for WHO He is and not just what He's done.

- The angels worship Him continually and they have never even been redeemed, they are worshipping Him for WHO He is and to enter into His presence.

Who is He?

- The names of God display the character of God and let you see exactly who He is.
Elohim-the first word used for God in scripture, it is the idea of greatness and glory

Yahweh- He is the one who is self-existent , in Himself possess life and permanent existence. The living God.

El Shaddai- means the one who nourishes, supplies and satisfies

Jehovah-Jireh- God will provide or Our provider

Jehovah –Raphah- means Jehovah heals. It speaks of healing in the total sense; body, soul and spirit.

Jehovah-Nissi- means Jehovah my banner-it refers to the rod that Moses used at the Red Sea or when he brought water out of the rock-it represents deliverance and salvation.

Jehovah-Shalom- means victory and peace-the name also speaks of harmony in relationship and reconciliation.

YOUR voice of worship

- When you worship the things that seemed so big before, suddenly become so insignificant.
- When YOU lift YOUR voice in worship you are changed by looking into His face, you are changed from glory to glory.
- We become like what and whom we worship.

Example: Your husband married you because he loved YOU. It wasn't because there were not millions of other women. His heart was drawn to YOU. In like manner, God's heart is drawn to us individually as if there were no one else in the world.

- You may say, "but he has all these other Christians that love him." But He's not satisfied unless YOU are pouring out YOUR love to Him.
- No one can do it for you, He is waiting on you.
- Worship is an attitude of the heart in which the heart bows down before God. No one else is present. No thoughts in your mind other than God.
- You haven't come with a petition, a request or need healing. You have only come because you love him so much and you want to express that love.
- Worship is a time of love. He pours out His love on us and we pour out our love on Him.
- Fall in love with Him and get quiet enough to stop and hear His voice.
- You have to learn to tune into His gentle voice.
- If we turn a deaf ear to His voice, if we suppress the hearing of His voice, if we don't appreciate His voice and would rather hear something else, He will go somewhere else and speak to someone else.
- But if we love the sound of His voice, He will speak to us often.

Worship Until the Glory Comes

- Worship until the glory comes.
- Glory is the manifested presence of God.
- When the glory comes down, it's a bit of heaven's atmosphere coming down to us, a taste of His manifest presence.
- Heaven on earth.