

Encountering God in Praise and Worship

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. (Psalm 100:4-5)

The humblest person who know how to enter into worship brings pleasure to God and encounters God in a way that those who merely study about God can never do. So tonight we want to ask:

1. What is worship?
2. Why should I worship?
3. How should I worship?
4. What happens when I worship?

1. What is worship?

- A. Acts which proclaim the greatness of God.
- B. Acts which acknowledge the unique right and power of God.
- C. Acts which demonstrate our allegiance and obedience to God.
- D. Acts in which we offer ourselves to God for His purposes.

2. Why should I worship?

- A. We worship in response to His gracious invitation.

B. We worship because He deserves it.

C. We worship because of His work in our lives.

D. We worship because the Holy Spirit leads us to worship!

3. How should we worship?

A. Let your goal be to pursue a lifestyle of worship.

B. Approach the Lord in worship in the pattern of His Temple

C. Utilize as God leads all the Scriptural expressions of worship.

1. Thanksgiving and praise are is vocal.
2. Postures of worship are important
3. Expressions of worship: lifting up of hands, etc.
4. Music and singing – three forms, found in Ephesians 5:19

D. Become a deliberate worshipper.

1. Begin and end your day with worship.
2. Get apart with God for “praise breaks” during the day.
3. Learn to worship God spontaneously out of the flow of your heart.
4. Choose to worship God in the language of the Spirit.
5. Learn to “praise without ceasing.”
6. Study praise and worship in the Bible: yadah, towdah, halal, shabach, barak, zamar, tehillah.

4. What will happen when I worship?

Worship is one of the keys that the Holy Spirit uses to unlock us to go to new levels in the Lord; He uses worship to bring us into abundant life and the freedom of Jesus Christ. He does this in three ways:

1. Worship breaks the power of self-consciousness.
2. Worship lets God transform our character.
3. Worship propels us to fresh strength and vision.