

(W.O.R.S.H.I.P) - Worship (Together/Alone)

Q1) What do you think it means to worship God?

Worship can be simply defined as the correct response to God's love. So the question we should all be asking ourselves is this, "What does it look like when someone correctly responds to God's love?"

To understand what a correct response to God's love looks like, we will use the W.O.R.S.H.I.P acronym to help us. In other words, the correct response to God's love can be described in the actions we take as represented by each letter of the word WORSHIP.

*The **W** in W.O.R.S.H.I.P stands for Worship! But specifically there are two aspects of worship that we will be focusing on... worshiping together with others... and worshiping alone just between you and God.*

Before continuing with the lesson, note that "Church" with a capital "C" refers to ALL the believers in the world while "church" with a small "c" refers to a local church.

Worship - Together

To better understand what it means to worship together, let's discuss a couple of questions...

Q2) What do you think is the purpose of church?

Q3) Do you think that we're supposed to go to church?

People come up with many ideas about why they should or shouldn't come to church, however the Bible has the correct answer on what our response to God should look like regarding the matter! So let's see what God's Word has to say about going to church and what church is.

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

-Hebrews 10:24-25

"Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,"

-Colossians 1:24

According to these scriptures, the Church is the body of Christ, and we are not to forsake meeting together. In other words, God wants us to go to church! Going to church is a form of worshiping God, and the Church is so important that God calls the Church the body of Christ. Therefore, no one can just dismiss the church, or say it is "OK" not to go to church.

Also, entire books of the Bible were written to churches which again underlines the importance of the church: Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, etc.

DISCUSSION:

- *Did you know the importance of the church before this study?*

With what we learned so far, what do you think about not going to church because of:

- *Work?*
- *Laundry? Chores? Shopping?*
- *Need to sleep?*

To summarize, going to church is part of the correct response to God's love. We worship God with others at church.

Worship - Alone (Between You & God)

Start by reviewing previous section

Remember! Worship is simply defined as the correct response to God's love. So worshiping God alone is another way of correctly responding to His love.

Look at this psalmist's worship towards God.

A Psalm. Oh, sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

-Psalm 98:1

Ways: we can worship God alone at home or anywhere where we are by ourselves:

- 1) Sing/listen to worship songs (.i.e. YouTube, Spotify, etc.)
Search for your favorite songs at church. Here are also some artists/bands you can search for: Maverick City, Cory Asbury, Chris Tomlin, Elevation Worship, Hillsong.
- 2) Speaking praises to God
In your own words you can just speak praises to God from your heart!
- 3) Sit & be still in His presence
You can also just be still with your heart full of worship towards God and bask in His presence.
- 4) Raise your hands
Raising hands while singing songs of worship is simply a sign of surrender, dependence, reverence, adoration towards God. It is also another form of showing love to our God.

Discussion:

Do you have favorite worship songs?