

NMC Cell Material
Week Beginning 18.06.06
Discipleship: Praise and Worship

Welcome

The purpose of our worship is to glorify God. Worship should be central to our lives as disciples.

What has been the most memorable act of worship you have attended? What made it so memorable? How did it affect you personally?

Word

Read John 4: 1-26

When Jesus met the woman at the well she remarked on the nature of worship at that time; God was constrained to a specific place (on a mountain or in Jerusalem...). However, Jesus said that the time is coming when “true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth” (John 4:23).

What does Jesus mean by this?

What makes a “true worshipper”?

What sort of attitude does the Father require from a worshipper?

Have you ever found yourself leaving worship on a Sunday and saying, “That did nothing for me today” or, “I didn’t get anything out of that this morning”? (or similar) – If so, what does this say about your attitude to worship?

Read Luke 7: 36-50

Luke paints an incredibly vivid picture of this remarkable scene.

What does this encounter between Jesus, Simon the Pharisee and the unnamed woman tell us about the attitude of a true worshipper?

List the actions of the woman. How does she physically display the nature of true worship?

How does this compare to the worship we offer to God?

(Note: The woman utters not a single word throughout the proceedings)

Worship

(Perhaps this week you may wish to spend more time in worship than you would ordinarily?)

Read **Psalm 100** aloud together.

In open prayer offer praise and thanksgiving to God.

Through the blood of Jesus we have been redeemed – we are able to approach the throne of God with boldness as sons and daughters of the Father, co-heirs with Christ. Spend a few minutes in silent prayer reflecting upon God’s grace at work in your life.

“Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere” – Psalm 84:10

Does your life express this truth? Seek forgiveness for those times when you have let other things crowd out your worship of God.

If you know a tune (there are several) sing this short hymn of praise together:

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Witness

Your attitude should naturally draw others towards God rather than away from him – is this true of your life?

Spend some time this week reflecting upon your attitude towards worship.

Read the following two verses from Scripture at the beginning and end of each day, allow them to be a measuring stick for your own attitude.

Therefore, I urge you brothers and sisters, in view of God’s great mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.

(Romans 12:1)

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

(Psalm 51:16-17)

Remember, God wants your love more than anything else, He desires your worship – in spirit and in truth.