***Rock Class #7***

***A Life of Worship***

What is worship?

Worship according to Webster’s Dictionary is defined as follows:

1. To honor or show \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for as a divine being or supernatural power
2. To regard with great or\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, honor or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Worship is not just something we do on Sundays. Worship isn’t just singing a song although that is an expression of worship. Singing songs and praising God is an expression and outflow of a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. When our gratefulness and thankfulness express themselves in this manner, scripture is clear that we get God’s attention.

God is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to praise and a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of worship.

**Psalm 33:1 AMP**

“Rejoice in the Lord, O you uncompromisingly righteous (you upright in right standing with God); for praise is becoming and appropriate for those who are upright in heart.”

Praise makes us attractive, to God! A grateful heart brings God on the scene and good things happen when He shows up 😊

Whether we are conscious of it or not, our lives are worshipping something all the time. The question is, “What?” or “Whom?”

Worship is what we do best - BUT - many times it is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.**

A careful examination of our time will reveal what we truly worship or value in this life. Worship is an action word and it could be said that we worship whatever we devote the most of our time, attention, money and resources to.

What has our time?

What has our undivided attention?

What is our money spent on outside of our basic needs?

I have heard it said that when you walk into someone’s office or home, you will see what they value by the things they display.

There are many good endeavors in life yet there is One who deserves preeminence in all things.

**Who are we to worship? God!**

1st commandment in **Exodus 20: 2-3** — “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. You must not have any god but Me.”

Jesus stated in **Matthew 4:10 NLT** — “You must **worship** the Lord your God; **serve** only Him.”

**Exodus 20:4-5** **NLT** — “You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship (***serve***) them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods.”

**What are we to worship God with?** Our lives - how we live our everyday lives.

**Colossians 3:5 NASB**

* What is an idol? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_that takes the place of God in our lives.

**James‬**

* Many times we are too busy worshiping/serving the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_rather than the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Who alone reigns on High and deserves our worship.

**Matt. 6:19-21 NLT**

* Wherever our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is, there the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of our heart will also be.

**Matt. 6:33 AMP**

“But seek (aim at and **strive** after) **first of all** His Kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be **given** you besides.”

* We are so busy trying to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_these things in life and running ourselves ragged when God says to put Him first and these things will be\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Psalm 37:4-5 AMP**

“Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will **give** you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him also and He **will do it**.”

* Delight – take joy in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.
* Commit your way to His way – trust Him and He will do it.

This is so \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to the way the world does things.

**1 John‬**

* All the world can offer you is physical\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, temporal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and pride in our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and possessions.

Many work so hard their whole lives to gain temporal things only to find that those things don’t fulfill them like God can.

God is not against us enjoying life, but He wants to be the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to our\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Basically, what **Psalms 37:4-5** is saying is….

* Give God preeminence in all things.
* Give God your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_consideration.
* Don’t put things ahead of God.
* God needs to be our non-negotiable!

And the promise is that He will **give** us the desires of our heart (*the extra things*) and establish the work of our hands (through favor and opening doors that only He can open). That is what the blessed life is!

**Romans 12:1-2 AMP**

The Apostle Paul is telling us here that we are to…

* Make a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of all the members and faculties of our bodies to God
* To be holy, devoted and consecrated – set apart for God.
* To understand this is our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_service and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Not be conformed to the world (its way of doing things)
* Renew our minds (find out how God’s kingdom operates)
* Prove for ourselves what is the good, acceptable, perfect will of God
* Prove for ourselves the thing which is perfect in His sight for us personally

God needs to be our “why” in living. (**Acts 17:28)** We were placed here on earth by His design, for His design!

**Mark‬**

* We are to give up our own way, take up our cross (our assignment from God) and follow Jesus.

**Ephesians 2:10 NLT**

* There is a purpose and a plan for each of us and there is an incredible joy when we are doing and accomplishing things that have eternal value. Temporal things carry no weight compared to eternal things, so our lives need to be lived with the eternal in mind. **(2 Cor. 4:17-18)**

**Proverbs 19:21**

“You can make many plans, but the Lord’s purpose will prevail.”

Sooner or later, we figure out His way is best!

**James‬**

* To make plans without consulting God is viewed as presumptuous, boastful and\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

‬‬**Luke‬**

“Here’s the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home. “If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are **untrustworthy** about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? And if you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own? “**No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.””**

**Eccl. 5:10 NLT**

“Those who love money will never have enough, how meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!”

We cannot serve God and be enslaved to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Timothy 6:10 NLT `**

“For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.”

What is a life of worship? One that worships/serves God with its time, talents and resources.

We are called to serve and worship God with our lives - Every part of it! We are to live a life of worship to our Father in heaven.

Our lives will not find \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_until they are lived for God.

Some keys to living a life of worship

* Daily reading, meditating and acting on His Word. (**Joshua 1:8**)
* Continuous communication with God in the form of prayer (**1 Thes. 5:17**)
* Committing to growth (**Heb. 6:1**) (**Col. 2:7**)
* Not neglecting meeting together (church) (**Hebrews 10:25**)
* Submitting to the 5 ministry gifts Jesus placed in the church to equip us (**Eph. 4:11-13**)
* Using our spiritual gifts to help others (**1 Cor. 12:7**)
* Being grateful and thankful for all He has done (**Psalm 100:4-5, Psalm 103:1-5**)
* Committing to God our resources (money – tithe 10%) **Malachi 3**
* Living with a moment by moment awareness of God and walking with and being led by His Holy Spirit (**Gal. 5:16**)

You are the only one who can offer up your praise and your life of worship to God - as Pastor states, “Praise and worship are not spectator sports!”

Our life is a precious gift that we have been given from our Father in heaven. Don’t waste it on temporal things. Let’s worship and serve God with all that we are and all that we have. It is the least we can do for all that He has done for us.

We will spend all eternity being so grateful that we did!