

What is worship?

- Literally, worship means _____ to a _____. (Genesis 18:2, Psalm 95:6-7)
- Human beings communicate _____, respect and _____ through meaningful symbolic _____. (1 Samuel 25:23)
- Worship can refer to _____ we do that demonstrates _____, respect and _____ to God. (Romans 12:1)

Why do we worship when we gather?

- We have been _____ to worship. (1 Peter 2:9)
- Worship is the proper _____ to being in the _____ of God. (Exodus 3:4-5, Joshua 5:13-14, Luke 5:8)
- _____ is the main threat to God's _____. (Romans 1:21-23, Revelation 13:8)
- _____ is the central mission of God's _____. (1 Peter 2:4-5, Hebrews 13:15, Revelation 20:4)

What does worship *do*?

- Worship makes our allegiance to God _____—which makes us a _____.
- Worship teaches us to _____ and _____ God. (Romans 12:1-2)
- Worship proclaims the _____ to a _____ world. (1 Corinthians 8:5-6)

Conclusion

- Who/what we worship is _____.
- The most important mission we have as people and a church is to _____ God _____.
- Our faithful worship can _____ the _____.

Small Group Questions

1. GETTING STARTED:

- What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
- What are the best gestures a person can make to express loyalty, love or respect to you?

2. INTO THE BIBLE (READ DANIEL 3)

- Why did Nebuchadnezzar command the people to worship his image? What point was he trying to make?
- Why did Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refuse to worship the image? Why was true worship worth risking execution?
- How did Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's actions communicate loyalty, love and respect for God? (look especially at v.16-18)
- What did God prove by delivering Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? Why did it change Nebuchadnezzar's mind?

3. GOING DEEPER

- What/who are we tempted to worship instead of (or above) God?
- How can we clearly communicate our loyalty, love and respect for God to our modern culture? What actions should we take? What actions should we not take?
- How has singing in church changed you? How are you different because you sing with God's people? If you're not sure, then how could someone be different because they sing with God's people?

4. PRAYER

- Pray for each other and the temptation you will face to worship other "gods" and "lords." Ask for God to grant each other wisdom to see how to worship him best.