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Women's Activities Text "1" to #208.203.1777

Men's Activities Text "1" to #208.203.1822

"Heart of Worship"

1. David lived a lifestyle of declaring that God was 1) his greatest treasure, 2) his highest priority, 3) the center of his life, and 4) the source of his identity.
 - a. That is the definition of worship.

Romans 12:1 (NIV) "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship."

2. You are always worshipping something. The question is who/what are you worshipping?
 - a. You are always declaring something as being your greatest treasure, your highest priority, the center of your life, and the source of your identity.
3. **Worship in Spirit and Truth** [Read 2 Samuel 6:9-13]
 - a. Why did God strike Uzzah dead?
 - i. Uzzah died because God is holy, He had communicated His commands (Num. 4:15), and they didn't come His way.

John 4:24 (NIV) "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

- b. When we worship Jesus without the truth of God's word, what happens?

"We are molding Jesus into our image. He's beginning to look a lot like us because, after all, that is who we are most comfortable with. The danger now is when we gather in our church buildings to sing, and lift up our hands in worship, we may not actually be worshipping the Jesus of the Bible. Instead, we may be worshipping ourselves" (Platt).

- c. David wanted to worship, but didn't come in the right way.

4. How Should We Worship?

Hebrews 12:28-29 (ESV) "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire."

- a. If there is acceptable worship to God, then there is unacceptable worship.
 - i. What is acceptable?
- b. God deeply desires genuine, authentic worship from His children, but rooted in truth, and accurate to His character.

5. Two verbs for "Worship":

Hebrews 13:15-16 (ESV) "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (emphasis mine).

- a. **Proskuneó:** Translates to "bowing down" or "kissing the ground". It is the reverence, praise, and adoration you express (like singing in a church service).

Psalms 141:2 (ESV) "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!"

- b. **Latreuó:** Translates to "serving". More than just the act of the lips. It is the outward action of your life, obedience, and how you act.
 - i. Worship is Both/And: Both Celebrating & Serving

6. **Worship and Sacrifice Go Together** [2 Samuel 6:9-13]

- a. This time David has an increased fear of the Lord and is guided by God's Word.
 - i. We worship what we are willing to sacrifice for!
- b. When good things become my god, they become my master and enslave me.

Romans 1:25 (NIV) "They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen."

- c. The only way to truly live free is to worship God.

2 Samuel 24: 24-25 (NIV) "But the king replied to Araunah, 'No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.' So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them. ²⁵ David built an altar to the Lord there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the Lord answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped."

7. **Worship Demonstrates Love** [2 Samuel 6:14-23]

- a. Worship is love displayed unashamedly (2 Samuel 6:14).
 - i. What does this look like for you?
- b. We want to be mindful of "**Expression vs Preference**"
 - i. Is this acceptable worship to the Lord, regardless of my preferences?
 1. Songs need to be theologically correct.
 2. God doesn't accept worship where I go through mindless actions.
 - ii. If you raise your hand, it doesn't mean you love him more.
 1. However, if celebration is in you, let it out!
 2. Don't allow the fear of what others think hold you back.
 - iii. There are those who worship more quietly, but the same reverent, joyful **proskuneó** is happening on the inside. Way to go!

8. **Are You a Michal (A Worship Critic)?**

2 Samuel 6:20 (ESV) ".....'How the king of Israel honored himself today, uncovering himself today before the eyes of his servants' female servants, as one of the vulgar fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!'"

- a. Authentic worship will often be misunderstood by those that are not doing the same.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

Ice Breaker: What is a way that you practice worship outside of Thursday/Sunday service?

Main Passage: 2 Samuel 6

1. What is worship?
2. In 2 Samuel 6, what do we learn about God and worship?
3. In 2 Samuel 6, what does David do that God wants you to imitate?
4. Worship is far broader than just singing. What are ways that we worship in life?
5. Worship is not about your preferences; it is about what pleases God. What preferences do you have to lay down in order to worship God?
6. When it comes to church service, do you have any questions about how we worship?
7. When we worship something other than God, we become enslaved to it. Is there something in your life that has become an idol? (Ex: Control, safety, people pleasing)



Serve Info



Group Questions



Overtime Podcast