

Living Word Fellowship Church
Revival Theme: "Together We Pray"
Sermon Three: **WORSHIPPING TOGETHER CHANGES YOU**
Pastor Rodney Maiden, Guest Speaker
January 6, 2022

WHAT IS WORSHIP?

EXPRESSING OUR LOVE AND GRATITUDE TO GOD FOR WHO HE IS, WHAT HE'S DONE, WHAT HE'S SAID, AND WHAT HE'S PROMISED TO DO!

Jesus: "The most important command of all is this one: You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your mind, and all your strength!" Mark 12:29-30

WHY DO WE EXPRESS OUR LOVE TO GOD?

1. BECAUSE WE WERE MADE TO BE LOVED BY GOD

"We love because God first loved us!" 1 John 4:19 (NCV)

"Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)

2. BECAUSE EVERYTHING COMES FROM GOD

David: "These gifts did not really come from me and my people. Everything comes from you; we can only give you back what you have given us!" 1 Chronicles 29:14

3. BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND LIFE THROUGH WORSHIP

David: "I tried to understand it all, but it was too hard for me to see until I went to the Temple of God. Then I understood what was happening..." Psalm 73:16-17

4. BECAUSE GOD STRENGTHENS US THROUGH WORSHIP

"You, Lord, keep my lamp burning and turn darkness to light. You help me defeat the enemies of my life. Your way is perfect, Lord, and your word is correct. You are a shield for those who run to you for help...You give me strength and you guide me right!" Psalm 18:28-32 (CEV)

WHAT KIND OF WORSHIP DOES GOD LOVE?

WHOLE HEARTED WORSHIP

"Hezekiah dedicated his life to serving God. Everything he did in worship in God's temple, he did wholeheartedly. As a result, he was very successful and prospered." 2 Chronicles 31:21 (GW)

GOD HATES INSINCERE, HEARTLESS WORSHIP

GOD: "These people SAY they are mine, but they honor me only with their lips! Their hearts are far away from me! And their worship of me amounts to nothing more than human traditions that they have memorized and say by rote!" Isaiah 29:13

Jesus: "True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth! That's the kind of worshipers the Father seeks." John 4:23 (NIV)

IMPORTANT: **WATCHING WORSHIP** IS NOT WORSHIP!!!

HOW TO TELL GOD YOU LOVE HIM (WAYS TO WORSHIP)

1. BY LISTENING AND RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

"Gather ALL the people together: men, women, children, and immigrants living in your towns so everyone can listen and learn to respect the Lord and carefully obey everything in his Word." Deuteronomy 31:12 (NCV)

Jesus: "Now that you KNOW these things, you will be blessed IF you DO them!" John 13:17 (NIV)

Taking notes is part of worship!

2. BY SINGING TO HIM WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

"Celebrate God! SING TOGETHER—everyone! All of you with honest hearts, raise the roof!" Psalm 32:11(MSG)

3. BY TALKING TO GOD TOGETHER IN PRAYER

"They all joined TOGETHER constantly in prayer." Acts 1:14 (NIV)

"We must help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you." Romans 1:12 (NCV)

4. BY SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER TOGETHER

"When we drink from the cup at the Lord's Table, it means that we are SHARING TOGETHER the blessing of Christ's blood. And when we break and eat the bread TOGETHER, it shows that we are SHARING TOGETHER in the Body of Christ." 1 Corinthians 10:16

5. BY RECOMMITTING OUR LIVES TO GOD

“Because of God’s great mercy to you, offer your lives as living sacrifices to Him, dedicated to serving him in a holy and pleasing way -- this is your spiritual act of worship.” Romans 12:1

6. BY GIVING BACK SOME OF WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US

“On every Lord's Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and give it back as your offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord helped you earn.” 1 Corinthians 16:2 (LB)

7. BY BEING BAPTIZED PUBLICLY DECLARE OUR FAITH

“Going under the water was a burial of your old life; coming up out of it was a resurrection, God raising you from the dead as he did Christ.”

Colossians 2:12 (MSG)

“In Christ’s Body you are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” Ephesians 2:22 (NIV)