

4Ws TRUE WORSHIP

TRUE WORSHIP: GET R.E.A.L.!



APRIL 27, 2025

WORSHIP

Suggested worship songs: We Give Thanks, The Joy, Love of God, Goodness of God, Shout to the Lord

WELCOME

What are you most excited about in your season of life today? Why is that so?

WORD

PSALM 100

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.

² Serve the LORD with gladness;

Come before Him with joyful singing.

³ Know that the LORD Himself is God;

It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;

We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

⁴ Enter His gates with thanksgiving

And His courts with praise.

Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

⁵ For the LORD is good;

His lovingkindness is everlasting

And His faithfulness to all generations.

Is worship a religious activity, attending church, your posture while singing? Worship is more than that; it has to do with the heart. Whether we like it or not, we will WORSHIP something or someone— the only difference is who we give our worship too. Anything that takes the place of God in your life becomes an idol. The “test of loss” is a way to check this:

- 1- Presence and Time: What do you find yourself enjoying so much that the hours seem to pass in an instant?
- 2- Worries and Concerns: What situation or potential loss causes you the greatest anxiety?
- 3- Conflict and Choices: What do you naturally choose to invest your money, time, or energy in, even when it's challenging?

What loss will make your life “meaningless”? That is what you worship!

How we worship God today reflects how we will do in eternity. WORSHIP is **“our proper response to who God is, what He has done, and our trust in what He will continue to do”**. Worship is God-centered. Our relationship with God may be problematic if we are not excited about worshipping Him.

We are not to have other gods (**Exodus 20:3-5**). It is possible that people “worship” other things apart from God with **“idols in their hearts”** (**Ezekiel 14:3**). The Israelites had a distorted view of worship, going after idols other nations worshipped (**2 Kings 17:15-17, 33**). They mixed different religious beliefs and traditions (**syncretism**), leading to their downfall.

Jesus taught about worship, too. He defined what true worshipers are – the object of worship is God, and worship is done in spirit and truth – from the heart and based on who He truly is (**John 4:23-24**). Jesus rebuked hypocrites who were engaged in false worship – doing things out of tradition, not for the Lord (**Mark 7:6-8**). Remember, wrong worship is not acceptable to God (**Isaiah 1:13,15**).

Psalm 100 is the only psalm described as a “Psalm of Thanksgiving”. What do we learn from this psalm?

1) RECOGNIZE WHO GOD IS AND RESPOND WHOLEHEARTEDLY

Psalm 100 starts with a command to **“shout joyfully to the Lord”**. As Dr. Martyn Lloyd -Jones said, *“the worship of God should be the most joyous, exuberant, liberating thing that a man can do”*. We can joyfully do this if we remember that we come to worship God, not people.

In **2 Samuel 6**, David had brought the ark of God back to his city and was dancing with all his might. Michal, daughter of Saul and David’s wife, despised him when she saw David dancing. But David knew what God has done, and he wanted to recognize who God is and give his whole worship to Him. In turn, Michal never had a child with David.

After Peter healed a lame man, the man was **“walking and leaping and praising God”** (**Acts 3:8**). When you

are touched by God, you will never be the same.

2) EXPRESSED IN SERVICE

“SERVE” the LORD with gladness (**Psalm 100:2**). The Hebrew word *AVODAH* is translated as work, service, or worship. When you give your life to God, we offer our bodies as a **“living and holy sacrifice”** to God (**Romans 12:1**). Paul instructs believers to **“do your work heartily”**, knowing that we are doing it for the Lord (**Colossians 3:23-24**). Anything we do, when done for God, is an act of worship – it is God whom we serve! *“There are no neutral people. We all live in service to something or someone— either self, or sin, or God”* (John Piper). Joshua serves as an example for this, who made a choice, for himself and his family, to “serve the LORD” (**Joshua 24:15**). Service is beyond serving in ministry – it is about doing things for the Lord, whether at work, or even with your personal passions.

3) ANCHORED IN GOD’S WORD

“All true worship is a response to the self-revelation of God in Christ and Scripture and arises from our reflection on who He is and what He has done” (John Stott). **Psalm 50:1** has a rebuke for those who think about who God is based on their own perception. When we worship God, we must not picture Him however we want to but based on His revealed character to us. God is love, God is just, God is righteous and holy, and ultimately, there is no other god apart from God.

We’re commanded to know the LORD as God, our Creator, and that we belong to Him (**Psalm 100:3**). Jesus described Himself as the GOOD SHEPHERD (**John 10:11,14**). Worship is anchored on the truth – that God was willing to reach out to us through Jesus Christ, and in turn, we are expected to hear Him, know Him, and follow Him as He is the only One capable of giving us eternal life (**John 10:27-28**). We must take time to meditate and study His Word and obey Him completely.

4) LIVE IN THANKSGIVING

Worship is done publicly, as well as done in private (**vv. 4-5**). We are commanded to enter His courts – and worship God publicly (implicated). We do this when we **“make known His deeds among the peoples”** (**Psalm 105:1**) and praising the Lord is done in the **“company of the upright and in the assembly”** (**Psalm 11:1**). Public worship was practiced even in the New Testament (**Acts 2:46-47**). We should talk about God and His goodness!

The reason for our worship is specified: **“For the LORD is good, His lovingkindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness to all generations”** (**Psalm 100:5**). Do we talk about what God has done for us in front of other people? We must testify about God’s goodness, especially when we go through life’s challenges. We will be able to give thanks to God all the time if we have truly experienced these things. A life of worship is not once a week only – it has to be habitual, our way of life. Get REAL in our worship – exalt God for who He is!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. Based on the Bible, what is true worship? What is false worship?
 2. How do we worship God at home, at work, and with the body of Christ (church)?
 3. How can we sustain a lifestyle of worship?
 4. What are the things (both blessings and challenges) you can thank God for?
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WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray for the Lord to raise up multitudes of new worshippers who will worship Him in Spirit and truth. Practice R.E.A.L worship every day. Share about God's goodness in your life and tell others about Jesus!

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives.

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of public servants; repentance and salvation for government leaders and citizens for a Christ-centered Philippines.
- For legislators to promote and support bills and laws aligned with God's Word.
- War in Ukraine to end, loss of lives prevented.
- For the rest of the Israeli hostages to be restored to their families safely. For Israel's war with terrorists to end according to God's purpose and for His glory.
- For the civil war in Syria to end peacefully, protection for Christians and other minorities, and freedom from oppression for Syrians. Pray for the

gospel to spread rapidly throughout the country.

- Pray for Nigeria and persecuted Christians there; earnestly seek God's intervention to stop the bloodshed. Pray for freedom from oppression, that God's word and His people bring them comfort and hope.

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God, and make disciples
- For elders, pastors, deacons, and families to become holy, humble, harmonious, happy, and heart-working)
- For ministries and church expansions worldwide.

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain (MMRC)

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper and intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living.
- Salvation of family and friends

MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 100:4-5

4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name. 5 For the Lord is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting And His faithfulness to all generations.

