

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

October 16, 2022

The Mission of the Church Lesson 4 - Worship (Part 1)

Having spent the first three lessons of “The Mission of the Church” discussing the organization of the ekklēsia, we now look to scripture to focus on our mission. What is it that God wants His church to be doing? In scripture the mission of the church can be addressed by the following categories that we will be looking at over the next few weeks: **Worship, Edification, Benevolence, and Evangelism.**

This morning we begin by looking at the concept of **Worship** in scripture, and will do this by asking three questions about what God desires from His church in terms of **Worship**:

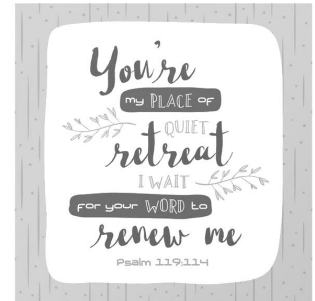
Question 1: _____

This should probably be question number two, but if we do not get this one right, the rest of the questions really do not matter. We must be very careful that when we assemble, we are not worshiping the wrong being (**Luke 18:9-14**). What is our primary motivation for worship? Is it to make ourselves feel better? Is it because we enjoy it? True worship should make us feel better. True worship should be enjoyed by Christians. However, if either of these is the primary motivation, then we need to reexamine the object of our worship.

Forms of the word “Worship” appear 191 times in scripture (113 in the Old Testament and 78 in the New Testament). Whenever worship is mentioned (or praise, thanksgiving, etc.), it is always being directed toward God (**Hebrews 12:28-29; Revelation 14:6-7**). He is the object of our worship. He is the audience, and we are the performers. While we will undoubtedly receive many benefits from the true worship, we must never forget that worship is about God first and foremost.

Question 2: _____

The Collins English Dictionary defines “Worship” as (Noun) *“Reverent honor and homage **paid** to God or a sacred personage, or to any object*



“Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls.”

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When you are down and feeling blue
Ask and it shall be given you
When there are troubles on your mind

God says to seek, and you will find
Knock and His doors will open within
As our God will wash away your sin
For you to receive, if to God you ask
And if you seek, you shall find your task

God is Love and Love God is
With much happiness and bliss
His love is real and forever more
Knock and God will open the door
How I know, thus what I say
Reading the Bible, as I pray
An onward living as I go
The Word of God has told me so

regarded as sacred” and (Verb) “To **render** religious reverence and homage to”. From these two definitions, please note the words “paid” and “render.”

When reading about worship in scripture, it is never just a feeling and is also never about just going through the motions (i.e. showing up and sitting in a pew). It is an action, an investment, a payment, an offering, a sacrifice given for a specific purpose. We must be careful that we do not confuse emotion with worship. Can true worship create an emotional response? It absolutely should! Is emotion alone a sign of true worship? Not at all. The same is true for just going through the motions. Should we consider merely attending a church gathering as an act of worship? Absolutely not! Worship is a praise offering made to the creator of the universe in view of everything He has done for us (**1 Chronicles 16:8-10, 23-27; Hebrews 13:15**). This is not an activity that should be taken lightly or haphazardly (**Ecclesiastes 5:1-2**).

Question 3: _____

If God is the object of our worship, and worship is a praise offering made to Him, then motivates us (the ekklesia) to do it? While there are many, many things we could say about the reasons why we should worship God, let’s focus on three fundamental concepts:

- 1. We recognize His power and majesty:** He is the all-powerful creator of the universe. He is worthy of our praise and adoration!
(**1 Chronicles 16:8-10, 23-27; Isaiah 40:28-31**)
- 2. We recognize His gift to us:** He has rescued us from certain death, and we are thankful! (**Romans 3:19-26; Ephesians 2:1-10**)
- 3. We recognize His right to our lives:** He bought us with the blood of His Son, and we owe Him our lives and our worship!
(**1 Corinthians 6:18-20**)

SERVING TODAY (October 16, 2022)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read: M. Reed
Prayer: J. Walker

WORSHIP

Read: J. Gupton
Wait On Table: R. Mayo
Serve: J. Buchanan, J. Demonbreun
Prayer: J. Baker

PRAYER LIST

- **Mike Smith** is recovering from heart surgery
- Elizabeth’s grandmother **Carol Saling** has cancer
- **Bill Gillock** is doing better at home
- We rejoice with **Kristine Garrett** as her cancer continues to improve
- **Maria Hunter Harrington**, a friend of the Billingsleys, has breast cancer
- **Forshia Pennington, Carolyn Pennington** and **Judy Grissom**, relatives of the Reeds, have breast cancer. **Vicki Reed** has been diagnosed with Myeloma as well
- **Donna Rawls Head** has cancer
- Continue to pray for: those in **Ukraine**; the **Brown** family, **Kim Waller, Delores Coleman**, the **Krantz** family, **John Hayes, Nick Phifer, Gaynell Walker, Rosemary Douglas, Isabel Johnson**, and **Jim Sims**