



The Who, What, When, Where, Why & How of Biblical Worship

---a six week discovery Bible Study

<http://worshipconnection.wordpress.com>

Week Two-- The "What" of Biblical Worship: Defining Worship

Intro:

→ Brainstorm: what do you think worship is?

→ Dictionary definition of worship

n. wor·ship

1. a. The reverent love and devotion accorded a deity, an idol, or a sacred object.

b. The ceremonies, prayers, or other religious forms by which this love is expressed.

2. Ardent devotion; adoration.

v. wor·shipped or wor·shipped, wor·ship·ing or wor·ship·ping, wor·ships

1. To honor and love as a deity.

2. To regard with ardent or adoring esteem or devotion.

American Heritage Dictionary c2006

Old English Word: "weorthscipe" literally meaning "worth-ship"

→ Who/what do we worship (besides God)?

→ Psalm 81:8-12

8"Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you;

O Israel, if you would listen to Me!

9"Let there be no strange god among you;

Nor shall you worship any foreign god.

10 I, the LORD, am your God,

Who brought you up from the land of Egypt;

Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.

11"But My people did not listen to My voice,

And Israel did not obey Me.

12"So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart,

To walk in their own devices." NASB

→ Bible definitions of worship

Shahach (Hebrew) _____

Proskyneo: (Greek) _____

→ Object of Biblical worship: _____

I. Discovery Exercises:

Worship is our First _____

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. 3 And they were calling to one another:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

4 At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

5 "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. 7 With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (NIV)

Acts 17:24-28

24 "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. 26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. 27 God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

Worship centers on the _____

Exodus 26:31-33

31 "You shall make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twisted linen; it shall be made with cherubim, the work of a skillful workman.

32 "You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, their hooks also being of gold, on four sockets of silver.

33 "You shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring in the ark of the testimony there within the veil; and the veil shall serve for you as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies.

Mark 15:37-39

37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last.

38 And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

39 When the centurion, who was standing right in front of Him, saw the way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Hebrews 10:19-22

19 Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,

20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,

21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

1 Pet. 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Worship comes from the _____

Isaiah 29:13

The Lord says:

"These people come near to me with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
Their worship of me
is made up only of rules taught by men."

2 Chronicles 16:9

9 For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him

Colossians 3:1

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your **hearts** on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Worship is enabled by the _____

2 Cor 3:17-18

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Jude 1:20-21

20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,
21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

Worship is grounded in _____

Psalm 138:2

2 I will bow down toward Your holy temple
And give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth;
For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name. (NASB)

II. Sharing Exercise:

With your partner/group, examine the following scriptures; Make note of the principle(s) for each one.

Ps. 148:13

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

Psalm 46:10

"Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

Matthew 16: 24-25

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.

Jer 13:10

These wicked people, who refuse to listen to my words, who follow the stubbornness of their hearts and go after other gods to serve and worship them, will be like this belt—completely useless!

Isaiah 26:7-9

7 The path of the righteous is level;
O upright One, you make the way of the righteous smooth.
8 Yes, LORD, walking in the way of your laws
we wait for you;
your name and renown
are the desire of our hearts.

Mark 12:28-29

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"
29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

III. Worship: Song w/video are on our blog <http://worshipconnection.wordpress.com>

Only You By David Crowder, Jason Solley, Mike Dodson, Mike Hogan c2003 CCLI# 2579397

Verse 1

Take my heart I lay it down
At the Feet of You Who's crowned
And take my life I'm letting go
I lift it up to You Who's throned

Chorus 1

And I will worship You Lord
Only You Lord
And I will bow down before You
Only You Lord

Verse 2

Take my fret take my fear
All that I have I'm leaving here
Be all my hopes be all my dreams
Be all my delights be my everything

ENDING

And it's just You and me here now
Only You and me here now
And it's just You and me here now
Only You and me here now

Applications for this week:

IV. Ask God to show you people or things you may be worshipping instead of Him so that you can turn away from them and turn to God.

V. Before you arrive at church to worship on Sunday morning, look over your notes and scriptures from this week and last. Ask God to help you focus on Him and worship from the heart. As you worship, pay attention to the words you are singing and Who you are singing them to.

Check out our blog at:

<http://worshipconnection.wordpress.com>

Further Resources

Bible Scriptures: Song of Solomon

Books: Desiring God by John Piper. Sisters, Oregon: Multnomah, c2003.
Living a Life of True Worship by Kay Arthur and Bob & Diane Vereen. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press, c2001.
Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God's Mighty Deeds of Salvation by Robert E. Webber, Star Song Publishing, c2006.

Websites: Defining Worship by Bob Kauflin:

<http://www.worshipmatters.com/2005/11/defining-worship/>

Songs for Worship: "Here I am to Worship" by Tim Hughes c2000

"We Fall Down" by Chris Tomlin c1998

"Amazed" by Jared Anderson c2004

"I Give You My Heart" by Reuben Morgan c1995

"I exalt Thee" by Pete Sanchez, Jr. c1977

"Heart of Worship" by Matt Redman c1999