

What is the chief end of man? To glorify God and exalt him forever- AW Tozer

Why- Worship- Worship changes you/us

Intro: Icebreaker- Ask the crowd – **This must go quick-** What worship song is you currently listening to RN on the radio, on your iPod, while you work out?

What about when you go saved. I know some in here are going to have to go back decades. But what song can you remember back then that like took you right into the presence of God.

Isn't it funny just how powerful music is- AD agencies and marketing firms spend millions of \$\$\$ each and every year crafting the perfect jingles and songs in hopes that they will stick in your brain and you buy their product.

AND IT WORKS.

Lets try it

Do the McDonalds Jingle and let them finish it

Or

The Best part of waking up is Folgers in your cup.

Im not much of a horror movie fan but what makes the scary part scary- THE MUSIC. Music produces this emotional response in us both good and bad.

Music also

- Improves Cognitive performance
- Reduces stress
- Helps you eat less (Apparently, I am not listening to enough music =)
- Improve your memory
- Manage Pain
- Help you sleep better
- Improve motivation
- Improve your mood
- Reduce symptom of depression
- Improve endurance and performance

I love worship- I love music, I was saved during the Brownsville revival, you put on some 90's Lindell Cooley and I can get lost for hours. Those are the songs that take me back to the time Jesus found me as a 10/11-year-old boy coming out of a broken home with an alcoholic father. I'm sure you have you have certain songs that take you back to the time where the Lord found you also.

Worship is so incredible, just think about it. You have an opportunity to join in weekly on Sunday mornings with all of Heaven declaring the majesty and glory of the God who saved you.

My thoughts on worship- building into how we allow our worship to change us.

Initial thoughts on worship- Worship is SURRENDER. Encounters w/ Jesus always create an opportunity for devotion- Everyone who ever encountered Jesus was always pushed to go beyond where they presently were. Some took advantage of its others missed the moment.

Don't miss your moment w/ Jesus b/c you might not get another one

***Zacchaeus- took advantage of it- Luke 19:1-10**

***Rich young ruler missed it. Mark 10:17-27**

Initial thoughts on worship- Worship is a lifestyle.

Worship is not simply an action one participates in rather it is a way of living. Devotion to the Lord as it pertains to us conforming our lives to his is the greatest form of worship we can ever offer. – True worshippers' worship in spirit and in truth.

You can dance, jump, shout, talk in tongues, say amen and hallelujah from the rooftop but if it's not changing you or you're not living it out outside these walls then its sensationalism and not true worship- Worship is Transformative.

We must stop treating worship like it is a

Worship is not an event we do rather it's a way of life. My devotion to Jesus is not made up of my Sunday morning 20/30min of song time. Rather it's in my desire to allow my life to conform to the life of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit always has more for us, he is always wanting to point us to Jesus. It's the Holy Spirit who awakens in us an understanding of God's beauty and splendor and power. It's the Holy Spirit who stirs us to celebrate and rejoice and give thanks. It's the Holy Spirit who

opens our eyes to see and savor all that God is for us in Jesus. It's the Holy Spirit who, I hope and pray, orchestrates our services and leads us in corporate praise of God.

Initial thoughts on worship- Worship when it comes to the music and demonstration portion of a service is the only part of the service that is completely for Jesus.

Every other portion of a church service is for you. Jesus doesn't need the sermon, or the greeting, he doesn't need a hot cup of coffee. But the worship- That's all for him. It is your opportunity to let the overflow of the goodness of God that is on the inside of you come roaring out of you in song, on instruments, in dance, in shout, in tongues, in prayer, in response, in praise, in adulation. – Praise him on the stringed instruments – Mary breaking the alabaster box- complete transparent, authentic worship.

How does worship change us? How are we different? I believe that begins with the **perspective** we carry with regard to our view of God.

- A story is told about a man who found out it was his time to go to Heaven.
- He asked the Lord if he could bring just one thing. The Lord said, “No”. Finally, after many requests the Lord said, “You can bring one thing.”
- Happily, the man packed his suitcase full of gold.
- When he arrived in Heaven the angels said, “Sorry you can't bring that in here.”
- He said, “The Lord said I could.”
- “Okay,” they said. “By the way, what's in there anyway?”

- The man opened the suitcase, and they looked in. Then an angel said, “Oh. It’s pavement.”

Perspective matters, how we see things may and usually is very different than how God see’s things. What we value is usually not what God values. What worries us doesn’t bother him.

Do you realize that if God were ever worried, he wouldn’t be God? Worry implies God is caught off guard or is unsure of an outcome. If that’s the case, then He’s not God. We must

The church rises and falls depending on her view of God- *A.W Tozer*

To me it’s all a matter of perspective- **If God is big everything else is small**

I must operate from the understanding that he is a good father and works all things out according to my good.

A high view of God creates a trust in us that assures us w/ confidence that God is in control.

- A high view of God and trust in his word is the cure for things like worry, anxiety, and fear.

My view of God cannot and does not shift when things get hard, or the enemy is attacking or the world stops making sense.

- *If I can push for a moment and understand I’m not implying this to any specific person or political affiliation but if the results of the last election caused you to waver in your faith even a little, then you may want to check your view of God.*

GOD IS ALWAYS IN CONTROL.

A High view of God is the cure for a culture in crisis

A High view of God is the key to unlocking the supernatural. We must as believers get back to the days where God is our first option and not our last resort.

Your worship is an indicator of your view of God

Your level of Obedience to His word is an indicator of your view of God.

He’s a Mind-Blowing kind of God.

**Understand NO matter your current view and perspective of God you are only scratching the surface of who he is and on what He can do. – John 21:25-
“Keep Blowing our minds Jesus”**

Don't ever settle for where you are at, allow the Holy spirit to show you the MORE of who He is and what he wants to do in you and through you.

You want to be changed by the power of God; you want to be changed from a place of worship then start by changing how you see him.

2 Passages-PSALM 121 I lift my eyes up to the hills for where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord the maker of Heaven and Earth.

Isaiah 6- In the year king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. – Expound.

Your worship and my worship don't have to look the same and for the most part wont. Just how God speaks differently to me than he does to you the same is true with how we relate to God from the place of worship.

Some run, some shout, some lay face down before the Lord, some lift their hands etc. The concerning part for us however is when we get to the place where our worship becomes routine and just another part of our service.

Worship can never simply be a box we check as Christians to help us appease our minds and feel like we have done our 20min lip service to God.

What's it worth to ya?

My love for Jesus and what He did for me is more than enough for me to give him my life. I heard it said growing up **“Even if Jesus never did anything else for you other than salvation, He is still worthy of your life and your worship”**

My continued acknowledgment of what Jesus did for me makes it easy to surrender my life- My goodness where would we be had Jesus had not died- My all-time favorite scripture is **2 Corinthians 5:21- ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin^[a] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

My worship is nothing in comparison to what Jesus did for me.

I OWE HIM

WE OWE HIM

YOU OWE HIM

Don't simply reap the benefits of salvation- participation in the establishment of His kingdom on the Earth.

Closing: I wouldn't adequately cover this topic if I didn't mention the significance of the ALTAR: Our westernized view of Christianity has diluted at least in my opinion the power and significance of the altar. We have in most contexts used the ALTAR to measure response and although that does play a part it just scratches the surface.

In the O.T. the altar is served as a reminder of a time and place where they encountered God. They would create an altar, make a sacrifice as an act of worship to God and it would remain. They would travel. The altar would remain and serve as a reminder of a time when they encountered God.

They would pass back through to and remember when they saw the Lord.

Understand this morning the Altar is a powerful place. It's not a walk of shame for problem people to come and be judged by the church. Rather its an opportunity to engage God and gain the freedom you have been searching for.

Altar call: Flow with the Holy Spirit