

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES:

WORSHIP

Personal and Corporate



Understanding Worship

(Genesis 22:1-14)



Genesis 22:1-3

¹ But Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”

² Then He said, “Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

³ So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

Genesis 22:4-7

⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.” ⁶ So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. ⁷ But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “my father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” Then he said, “Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”

Genesis 22:8-11

⁸ And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together.

⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him.

And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order;

and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the

wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to

slay his son. ¹¹ But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven

and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” So he said, “Here I am.”

Genesis 22:12-14

¹² And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” ¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

Understanding worship

“The inner essence of worship is to **know God truly** and then respond from the heart to that knowledge by *valuing God, treasuring God, prizing God, enjoying God, being satisfied with* God above all earthly things.

And then that deep, restful, joyful satisfaction in God **overflows** in *demonstrable acts of praise and worship* and *demonstrable acts of love* in serving others for the sake of Christ.

(JOHN PIPER)

Knowing the
ONE we worship



Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NIV)

This is what the LORD says: “Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches,²⁴ but let the one who boasts boast about this:

that they have the understanding to know me,

that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness,
justice and righteousness on earth for in these I delight,”
declares the LORD.

Genuine **Praise and Worship**
stems from
Genuine **Knowledge**
which is
the result of
Genuine **Relationship**

Relationship



A friend of God - **Abraham**

Our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of **Abraham your friend?**

2 Chronicles 20:7

(GOD)

“But you, Israel, my servant Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of **Abraham my friend,**

Isaiah 41:8

Deuteronomy 6:5

You shall **love** the Lord your God with **all** your heart
and with **all** your soul and with **all** your might.

Psalm 27:9

You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you,
"Your face, Lord, do I seek."

Psalm 63:1-3

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:
that **I may dwell in the house** of the Lord
all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.

RELATIONSHIP

Desire

Yearning

Pursue

Spending Time

Behold

RELATIONSHIP

Devotion

Meditation

Prayer

Fasting

Study

Solitude and Silence

Submission

Simplicity

Unacceptable Worship



Genesis 4:2-5

...Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground.
³ In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord **had regard for Abel and his offering,**
⁵ but **for Cain and his offering he had no regard.....**

Matthew 15:8-9

“This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
⁹ **in vain** do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

True and Proper Worship



Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters,
in view of God's mercy, to **offer** your bodies as a
living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God

this is your

true and proper worship

Our **lips** were created to **Praise** Him

Our **eyes** were created to **Behold** Him

Our **hands** were created to **Serve** Him

Our **legs** were made to **Walk** with Him

Our **hearts** were created to **Love and Adore** Him

Our **lives** were created to **Glorify** Him

JOHN WESLEY

"Above all **sing spiritually**. Have an **eye to God** in every word you sing. **Aim at pleasing him** more than yourself, or any other creature.

In order to do this, attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and **see that your heart is not carried away** with the sound, but **offered to God continually**; so shall your singing be such as **the Lord will approve** here (on earth) and **reward you** when he comes in the clouds of heaven."

Corporate Worship



Psalm 47:1

Oh, clap your hands, **all you peoples!**
Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

Psalm 66:8

Oh, bless our God, **you peoples!**
And make the voice of His praise to be heard,

Psalm 113:1-2

Praise the Lord! Praise, **O servants of the Lord,**
Praise the name of the Lord!
Blessed be the name of the Lord
From this time forth and forevermore!

Psalm 133:1-3

Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers **dwell in unity!**

² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!

³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.

Let **us** praise the **Lord!!**

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!

² Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!

³ Praise him with trumpet; praise him with lute and harp!

⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! ⁵ Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

CHARLES WESLEY

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Your Lord and King adore;

Mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;

Rejoice, again, I say rejoice.

Questions for **Reflection** & Sharing

1. If the key to genuine worship is the knowledge of God, how can you get to know God better?
2. Are you already at the place where you are living your life in the ongoing desire, pursuit and discovery of God? Do a stock take and share your conclusions.
3. If you are not, what are the necessary steps to take:
 - adjustments
 - realignment
 - actualising
4. Take time to look at your week and jot down your discoveries the God moments and share them with your group.