

LEAN IN

THE WHY BEHIND THE WHAT

Announcements

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in SERVE Day! Lives were changed and the Name of Jesus was glorified.

Warm-up

What is your favorite past time that you love doing?

Today we are going to see why it is a crucial part of our relationship with God that we *Lean In*. We have a personal prayer life, but there is something about coming together as a corporate Body of Christ coming together as we are doing today.

Word and Application

We are uniquely designed to worship something, and that “something” is God. Worship is simply our response to God’s invitation to have a personal relationship with Him. Everything we do is worship unto the Lord. Worship is not only the music aspect of the service but what we do each day. Our work is worship. How we love our friends and family is worship. Today we dig deeper into one aspect of worship and that is worship in song.

Read Revelation 4:11 & Romans 12:1.

Since God made you for His pleasure, how important is it that you see yourself how God sees you rather than how the world sees you?

Loving God back is called worship. Everyone worships something. It is in our DNA. If you don’t worship God, you will find a something else to fill the void but still come up empty. This is our number one purpose in life. We are going to be worshipping God in heaven forever, so let’s learn how to do it! What do you spend most of your time think about during the week?

Read Romans 12:1.

How does this verse define true worship? Because of sin, worship always involves sacrifice. In the Old Testament they literally had to sacrifice animals as part of worship. Serving is worship, because it involves sacrifice of time, energy, and giftings. Tithing is worship because we sacrifice money and give out of devotion. What is your favorite way to show God that you love Him?

Luke 10:27.

Worship is expressing my affection to God. Know that in life God loves you and the best thing you can do in life is to love Him back. God doesn't want rituals. He wants love to come from your heart. Have you every told God that you love Him?

We are going to discuss **Jesus' Three Important Lessons About Worship:**

1. Worship is expressing my affection to God.

Worship is singing, but overall is a life lived in pursuit of God. Worship is expressing and reciprocating the love God has for us back towards Him out of honor and respect that he rightly deserves. Learning to love God back is your highest priority and your first purpose.

Romans 6:13 (NLT), 1 John 4:19

Explain how it feels to know that God is passionate about His relationship with you.

2. Worship is giving God my focused attention.

When you fix your thoughts on God, God will fix your thoughts.

Read Psalm 139:23-24, Colossians 3:2, Isaiah 26:3. What are the benefits of focusing on God and not yourself or your life?

3. Worship is loving God with all my strength.

The 20 minute worship at church is a time we can truly worship with all we have with no distractions of the things of this world. Truly worshipping God with the best of who your are shows your love and appreciation of God.

Read Luke 10:27, Psalm 95:1-2, Mark 14:26, Acts 16:25-26.

We worship God for who He is on good days and bad days. Throughout all scripture they worshipped God in singing to lift our voices to engage our senses and rise above our circumstances and distractions. Worship before service is creating an environment to invite God into our hearts, minds, spirit, and lives. Worship on the weekend teaches you how to do this in your car , house or wherever you go during the week to continue it all week long.

Ways we can respond back to God in worship:

- By thanking, raving, and boasting in God's greatness | Psalm 35:18
- With exuberant singing | Psalm 100:2
- With music | Psalm 33:2
- With lifted hands | Psalm 141:2
- By kneeling and bowing | Psalm 95:6
- With shouting or addressing in a loud tone | Psalm 32:11

Share what God was speaking to you throughout this message.

Prayer

Thank God for loving us first and never giving up on us. Thank God for showing up with His presence as I begin to worship Him with my whole heart, mind, and soul. Ask God who we can invite to church to experience the fellowship of the body of Christ and the presence of God our Father.