

Lesson 5

Ministering to God

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was sitting on his throne, high and exalted, and his robe filled the whole Temple. Around him flaming creatures were standing, each of which had six wings. Each creature covered its face with two wings, and its body with two, and used the other two for flying. They were calling out to each other:

*“Holy, holy, holy!
The Lord Almighty is holy!
His glory fills the world.”*

The sound of their voices made the foundation of the Temple shake, and the Temple itself became filled with smoke.

—Isaiah 6:1-4

There can be no true worship unless the worshiper sees the Lord. When Isaiah saw the Lord in all His honor and glory, he sensed his own unworthiness and he bowed in humility before the Lord. Then the Lord took away his guilt and atoned for his sin. This is the result of true worship.

The Father is looking for true worshipers. The church is called to worship. This is its ministry to God. The church has three ministries—to God, to itself, and to the world. In this lesson we will discuss the church’s ministry to God—in worship, in submission, and in service.



lesson outline

Worship as a Ministry to God
The God We Worship
How the Church Ministers to God

lesson objectives

When you have completed this lesson you should be able to:

- Explain why worshiping God is a vital part of our Christian experience.
- Describe who God is and what He has done in relation to His worthiness to be worshiped.
- Describe how the church and individuals minister to God.
- Evaluate your personal ministry to God and that of your church in terms of the principles taught in this lesson.
- Have a desire to inspire others to become more involved in the church's ministry to God.

learning activities

1. Study the lesson according to the procedures given in Lesson 1. Read all Scripture texts given in the lesson, and answer each study question before checking your answer.
2. Take the self-test at the end of the lesson. This self-test is a self-evaluation based on the lesson content.

key words

access	inspiration	submission
atone	perish	transformed
corporate	reverence	vital
illumination	sanctuary	worthiness

lesson development

WORSHIP AS A MINISTRY TO GOD

The Necessity of Worship

Objective 1. Give reasons why worship is necessary.

The church at worship is the truest picture of ministry. We were created to bring glory to God (Isaiah 43:7). As members of His church, we give Him glory through our worship. Worship is the church’s highest privilege and duty, and its most important service here on earth. Worship is also to be the church’s main function in heaven (Revelation 5:8-13).

1 Read Revelation 7:9-17. Who is the great multitude who has come out of great tribulation (testing)?

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2 Where did this great multitude come from?

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3 Why are they worshipping and serving the Lord day and night?

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Let’s look at some reasons why worship is necessary as a ministry to God.

1. *Worship is necessary because God desires that we worship Him.* God created man to worship Him and enjoy fellowship with Him forever. We have already seen that Adam, the first man, enjoyed close fellowship with God. This is what God desired for all mankind. But when Adam sinned he lost his fellowship with God. His sinful nature was passed on to all mankind. But in a sense we might say that Adam also passed on to all mankind a memory of what it is like to be in fellowship with God. That is, Adam’s fellowship with God before he sinned gives an indication of what God wants to restore in our lives through Christ.

2. *Man is born with a deep desire to worship.* All men everywhere have a form of worship because they are all born with a desire to worship. But that does not mean that all forms of worship are correct. Those who are not Christians worship what they consider to be their gods. Many people believe that God and nature are one. To these people nature is God, so they worship it. Others have made themselves gods of many kinds. There are even those who believe in an “unknown God” (Acts 17:23). The result is that they worship ignorantly—they do not even realize how wrong they are. Their worship is empty. The Bible says, “Worship the Lord your God” (Matthew 4:10). Worshiping the Lord satisfies our longing to have fellowship with our Creator.

3. *God reveals Himself to us when we worship Him.* The true God who created man for worship and who desires worship has made Himself known. He has revealed Himself through His creation, through His Son, through His written Word (the Bible), and through the Holy Spirit. God wants to be revealed through

His church also. But to reveal God, the church must first have communion with Him and see His glory. “But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away 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” (2 Corinthians 3:16, 18 NIV).

- 4 Circle the letter in front of the TRUE statements below:
- a God created us to have fellowship with Him and worship Him.
 - b The desire to worship God is something that cannot be developed until our later years.
 - c Man lost his fellowship with God when Adam sinned.
 - d It is not possible for the church to reveal the glory of God.
 - e When we turn to the Lord in worship and obedience, we become more like Him.

5 Now without looking back at this section, try to list three reasons why it is important and necessary for the Christian to minister to God in worship.

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What Worship Is

Objective 2. *Describe the two-way communication involved in true worship.*

The word *worship* means “to give worth.” When we worship we take notice of the worth or value of someone. Some people misuse the word *worship* to describe their feelings for someone. You may hear someone say, “I just worship my father,” or “He just worships his children.” What is really meant is “I love my father,” or “He loves his children.” But in both cases the value or worth given to someone is being described.

The word *worship* properly should be reserved for God alone. To worship God is to recognize His worth. His worth is beyond measure. However, His worth is not to go unnoticed. God’s worth is to be directly related to our worship. “Our Lord

and God! You are worthy to receive glory, honor, and power” (Revelation 4:11).

6 Think of reasons why you consider God to be worthy of your worship. Write these reasons in your notebook, and as you study this lesson and see other reasons, add them to your list.

Worship starts with God coming near. God always begins the action to start fellowship with man. God comes close enough to us that we may see His worth and splendor. John 1:18 says that no one has seen God at any time. We do not see God as we see natural things. Worship deals with the unseen and spirit world, for God is Spirit (John 4:24). But as we have already stated, we see God in Creation, through His written Word, and in Christ.

God has come near to man in many ways. He came to Moses in a cloud (Exodus 34:5-8). He came to Isaiah in the temple (Isaiah 6:1-6). But in these last days the writer of the book of Hebrews says that God reveals Himself in His Son, Jesus. Christ “reflects the brightness of God’s glory and is the exact likeness of God’s own being” (Hebrews 1:3).

Jesus said, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9). God made himself known to the disciples through Jesus. They saw Him, they touched Him, and they heard Him. They worshiped Him. But He did not come to stay on earth. He came to die on the cross to atone for our sins, and then He returned to the Father. He left this promise with His disciples: “In a little while you will not see me any more, and then a little while later you will see me” (John 16:16).

When Christ returned to the Father, He sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. Christ said, “The Spirit will take what I give him and tell it to you” (John 16:15). The Holy Spirit reveals God through His Son to the church. So through His Spirit, God is present in the church, and He draws us unto Himself. Jesus said,

No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him to me; and I will raise him to life on the last day (John 6:44).

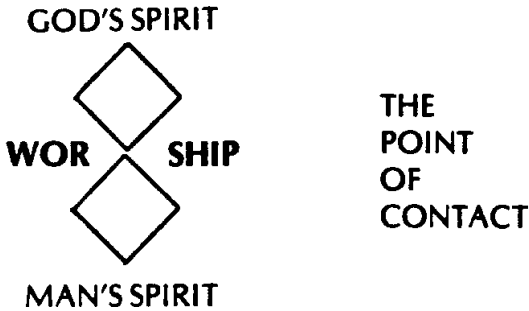
When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me (John 12:32).

7 List three ways that we can “see” God.

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Worship is the believer’s response to God. As God comes near and we recognize Him, it causes us to love, reverence, adore, and praise God. God becomes real to us and our understanding of God’s worth results in worship. True worship is spiritual and total.

God is a Spirit, and Jesus said that our worship was to be “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24 NIV). Worship in its highest nature is inward and spiritual. It is not just the outward ceremony of believers. Our spirit has communion with the Spirit of God! This is the type of worship acceptable to God.



The worshiper’s response is with his total being. The Bible says, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind” (Luke 10:27). The worshiper no longer needs to come before the Lord with animal sacrifices, but with a thankful heart (Psalm 50:7-15). Worship involves the feelings of the one who worships, as well as the understanding. The more we learn about God, and the better we know Him, the better we will be able to worship Him in truth. The Psalms show man worshipping God with his total being: “Praise the Lord, my soul! All my being, praise his holy name!” (Psalm 103:1). And in Psalm 95:6 the Psalmist says, “Come, let us bow down and worship him; let us kneel

before the Lord, our Maker.” The act of bowing down or kneeling before someone indicates an attitude of complete submission to that person.

8 Which of these is the best definition of *worship*?

- a) To love God
- b) To honor God because we recognize His worth or value
- c) To sacrifice animals to God

9 Which of these are TRUE statements concerning worship?

- a** When we worship God our feelings or emotions are involved.
- b** It is not possible to worship God until we “see” Him or know Him.
- c** God reveals Himself today only through His Son, Jesus.
- d** True worship is our natural response when God draws near to us and we recognize His worth.
- e** True worship is possible when our spirit has communion with the Spirit of God.

10 Luke 10:27, Psalm 103:1, and Psalm 95:6 show what attitude of worship by the believer?

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11 In your own words, describe briefly the two-way communication which takes place in true worship.

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THE GOD WE WORSHIP

Who He Is

Objective 3. *Give examples which illustrate the relationship between the names of God and His character.*

In the time of the Old Testament, names were often given to people to describe their character. As we read the Old Testament we read many names for God, and these names describe His personality and character. His names tell us who He is and what He does. They help us to understand Him better.

God's names answer to the needs of His children. When we ask God for something in our prayers, we communicate with Him in a real way—but this is not worshiping. However, God's goodness to answer our prayers and meet our needs produces the grateful hearts with which we worship Him. The names we use as we worship Him are often related to who God is and what He has done for us.

We cannot list all of the names for God given in the Bible, but here are a few of them:

God of Heaven	James 1:17
God of Hosts	Psalms 80:7
The Holy One	Job 6:10
The Living God	Deuteronomy 5:26
<i>Jehovah</i> —The Lord	Exodus 6:3
<i>Jehovah-Jireh</i> —The Lord Will Provide	Genesis 22:14
<i>Jehovah-Nissi</i> —The Lord My Banner	Exodus 17:15
<i>Jehovah-Shalom</i> —The Lord Who Sends Peace	Judges 6:24
<i>Jehovah-Shammah</i> —The Lord Is There	Ezekiel 48:35
<i>Jehovah-Rapha</i> —The Healing Lord	Exodus 15:26
<i>Jehovah-Tsidkenu</i> —The Lord Our Righteousness	Jeremiah 23:6
<i>El Shaddai</i> —The Almighty God	Genesis 17:1
<i>Immanuel</i> —The Almighty God With Us	Matthew 1:23

As you read these names of God, did they remind you of God's character? Have you experienced in your own life the aspect of God revealed in any of these names? Has He sent peace to your heart? Has He provided healing? Do you feel His presence? How can we do anything but worship and praise our Almighty God!

12 In addition to the names of God given in the Bible, there are many names given to His Son and to the Holy Spirit which describe their character. Look up the following Scriptures and write down the names given to Christ in each of them:

- a Matthew 1:21
- b Matthew 1:23
- c Matthew 2:4
- d Luke 1:32
- e Luke 1:69
- f 1 Timothy 6:15
- g Isaiah 9:6

13 Now look up these Scriptures and write down the name given to the Holy Spirit in each of them:

- a John 14:16
- b Zechariah 12:10
- c Romans 8:2

Now let’s look at three names which describe God’s relationship to His church in His redemptive act:

1. *God our Creator.* The Bible begins with God in action—He is the God who acts! The first verse in the Bible tells us that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1). The world did not come into existence by chance. Our God is a God of purpose, and there is a definite purpose and design in all of His creation. We worship Him for His creation. Psalm 19:1 says “How clearly the sky reveals God’s glory! How plainly it shows what He has done.”

14 Read Psalm 104. Why is the Psalmist worshiping and praising the Lord in this Psalm?

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Man is God’s special creation. In Psalm 8:5-6 the Psalmist is praising the Lord for His creation of man: “You made him inferior only to yourself, you crowned him with glory and honor. You appointed him ruler over everything you made; you placed him over all creation.”

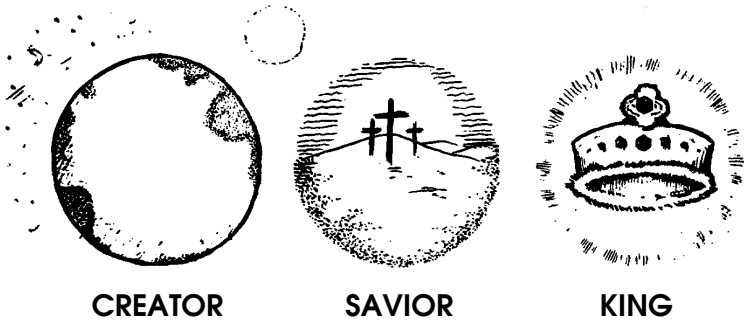
2. *God our Savior.* The God of Creation has planned for the redemption of the world which He created. Ever since man fell into sin, God's actions have been directed toward his salvation. God sent Jesus Christ into the world for man's redemption, to be his Savior. He saves the individual but He has also promised the redemption of the whole world (Ephesians 1:10). All who will call upon His name will be saved.

The Savior is called the Lamb of God because He has been offered as a sacrifice for the salvation of the world. He is to be worshiped for His salvation. Every creature of all the universe will sing in praise “. . . to the Lamb, be praise and honor, glory and might, forever and ever!” (Revelation 5:13).

3. *God our Eternal King.* “To the eternal King, immortal and invisible, the only God—to him be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen” (1 Timothy 1:17). We praise and worship God because He is eternal. “O Lord, you have always been our home. Before you created the hills or brought the world into being, you were eternally God, and will be God forever” (Psalm 90:1). His time has no beginning and no end—He is the first and the last (Revelation 1:8; 21:6).

The rule of the eternal King includes all men—the church and the world. The rule of the King will come as Christ overcomes all spiritual rulers, authorities, and powers. Then He will hand over the Kingdom to God the Father. Christ will continue to rule until all enemies are destroyed. Then God's eternal Kingdom will become a reality:

The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. There shall be no more night, and they will not need lamps or sunlight, because the Lord God will be their light, and they will rule as kings forever and ever (Revelation 22:3-5).



15 Illustrate the relationship between the names of God and His character, write in your notebook five names of God or His Son or the Holy Spirit, and explain in what way each name reveals something about the character of God. Does this exercise help you to see more clearly that God is indeed *worthy* of our praise?

What He Has Done

Objective 4. *Explain several ways in which God has provided for all of our needs.*

1. *God has redeemed us.* Not only did God create man, but He has also provided the way to redeem us. It is His desire that no one perish, but that we all live forever. God planned our redemption to save us for Himself. God wants all men and women to be saved so that we will bring honor to Him. All of God's purposes for us are to bring Him honor and glory. Isaiah 43:7 says, "They are my own people, and I created them to bring me glory." He has provided our redemption so that we might worship and glorify Him.

2. *God has given us access to Himself.* In the Old Testament the person who would not be cleansed was cut off. He could not come close to the Lord. (See Numbers 19.) In Exodus 30:18 the bronze basin or laver is described. The priests were to wash their hands and feet at the laver to cleanse themselves before they could enter into the presence of God. In 1 Peter 2:9 we read that now we are all made priests. This means that we can come to God directly in the name of Christ. We have been cleansed by Christ's blood and God's Word, so that we have access to God (Hebrews 10:19-22).

3. *God provides for our needs.* God supplies everything for His children. Psalm 23 has brought much comfort to many people. “The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need” (v.1). The God who gave us life also provides for us while we are on earth. He is not a God of the soul alone, but of the body also. God “gives food to every living creature” (Psalm 136:25). In Matthew 6:25-34 Jesus informed His disciples that God cared for them, saying, “Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things.” We worship Him because He provides all that we need.

4. *God has prepared a place for us.* The believer’s hope is that in eternity he will enjoy a new heaven and a new earth in the presence of God (Revelation 21:1; John 14:1-3). At that time the kingdom of God will be forever established. The rule of God over all the universe will bring all things in heaven and on earth under the Father. Then the believer will live in an eternal home in an everlasting fellowship with the Father. There we will worship Him forever!

16 How did God provide for our redemption?

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17 What is necessary before we can have access to God?

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18 What proof do we have that God is concerned about our material needs?

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19 What is the final and most important need of man that God has provided for?

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We have seen many reasons why the church ministers to God in worship and praise. Now we will turn our thoughts to *ways* we minister to God.

HOW THE CHURCH MINISTERS TO GOD

Objective 5. *Describe important aspects of the church’s ministry to God and how they are put into practice.*

In Public Worship

The church was born on the Day of Pentecost during a public celebration. The Bible records that the believers met daily and broke bread together. They met in homes or in the temple. They praised God continually, and all the people respected them (Acts 2:41-47). This was their service of worship to the Lord. It was a simple outward expression of their everyday inward communion with Christ.

Where two or three people are gathered in the name of the Lord, there is a church. They may meet in a home or in a hall. The church may be two or three families meeting for prayer or service, or it may be thousands of people gathered in a beautiful building. During a worship service we, the church, show by visible and spoken signs that we live in fellowship with the Lord.

God’s people in the Old Testament met in a temple which was built especially for worship. God talks about His people coming to worship:

“They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge” (Ezekiel 44:16 KJV).

20 This verse of Scripture (Ezekiel 44:16) is referring to the Old Testament priests, who alone were allowed to enter the sanctuary and minister unto the Lord. How can we apply this to our own experience of ministry in public worship?

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We minister unto God in public worship. This ministry takes place in the sanctuary. It is a place of goodness, truth, and beauty. David sang, “Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his

name: bring an offering, and come before him; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (1 Chronicles 16:29 KJV).

A worship service is a call to worship. The *minister* leads believers in worship of their Lord. Believers are called to receive in thankfulness God’s gift of fellowship with Him. A Christian worship service contains these elements:

Inspiration

1. *Music.* Music is a vital part of our expression of worship to the Lord. Glance through the book of Psalms in your Bible and notice the many references to singing praises unto the Lord, or praising Him with musical instruments. When we lift our voices together in songs of praise we are making a joyful noise unto the Lord, and He is pleased with our worship.

2. *Prayer.* God desires that our prayers include worship and praise. “This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven: May your holy name be honored; . . .’” (Matthew 6:9). “Come, praise the Lord, all his servants, . . . Raise your hands in prayer in the Temple, and praise the Lord!” (Psalm 134:1-2).

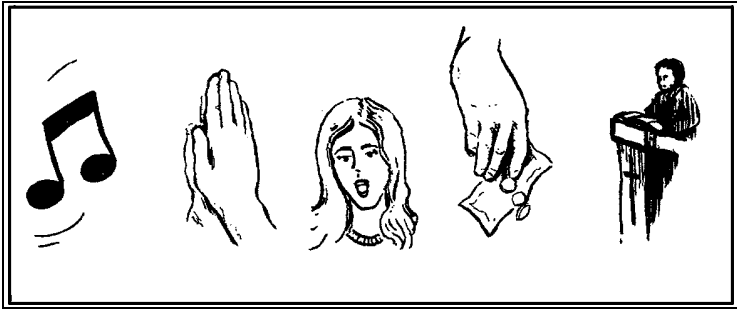
3. *Testimony.* The Psalms are filled with testimonies of the goodness of God. When we publicly share what God has done for us, the entire body of believers is led to worship the Lord and to believe Him for their own needs.

4. *Offering.* Giving back to the Lord a part of the material blessings He has given to us is an act of worship. We give out of a heart filled with thanksgiving because of His goodness to us. It is a privilege to give our offering unto the Lord.

Illumination

5. *The preaching of the Word.* “Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105). “I solemnly urge you to preach the message, to insist upon proclaiming it . . . to convince, reproach, and encourage, as you teach with all patience” (2 Timothy 4:1-2). When we gather together and listen to the preaching of the Word, our hearts are drawn to God in love and worship.

EXPRESSIONS OF WORSHIP



MUSIC-PRAYER-TESTIMONY-OFFERING-PREACHING

21 Explain in your own words how these elements of public worship are a ministry of the church unto the Lord.

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Here are some guidelines to help you create the conditions for meaningful worship of the body of Christ during the worship service:

1. *Plan and prepare before the worship service.* It is the minister’s responsibility to lead the church in worship. He should prepare his own heart through prayer, and plan the various parts of the service to enable God’s people to enter into worship.

2. *Allow for the Holy Spirit to move.* There are few experiences in life that compare with worshipping God “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24 KJV) A good worship service releases the spirit of man toward God. God meets His people during times of worship. There should be liberty in the Spirit. The Holy Spirit, like the wind which blows where it wills, is not subject to man’s order. Be sensitive to His direction as you worship. There is never disorder when the Spirit is in control.

3. *All members of the body should participate in worship.* The worship service should be a *corporate* worship—or worship as a body of believers. The Lord is pleased when the church is

worshipping together: “How wonderful it is, how pleasant, for God’s people to live together in harmony!” (Psalm 133:1). The body participates in music, in prayer and praise, in testimony, in giving, and in responding to the message from God’s Word. Many times in a worship service members of the body are led to minister to one another.

True worship should be *sincere*. Sincere worship comes from the heart. It should be *uplifting* and *inspiring*. It lifts up the Lord, and it draws men to Him. Worship should be *reverent*. There should be a deep sense of respect and honor towards God. When the church joins together in ministering unto God in worship, there is dignity and a holy, reverent atmosphere.

22 Which of these statements are TRUE concerning the church’s ministry to God in public worship?

- a** From the time of the early church, believers have joined together in public worship.
- b** A believer should consider his worship a personal matter which he cannot share with others.
- c** Some parts of a public worship service cannot really be considered part of worship.
- d** The most important ministry to God is that of praise and worship.
- e** The worship service should be so carefully planned that nothing will be allowed to change the plan.
- f** When the Holy Spirit is allowed to move in a worship service, there is both liberty and order.
- g** Corporate worship provides opportunities for the body to participate in many ways.

In Daily Submission

The believer does not worship only in the company of others. The church’s ministry to God depends upon each believer’s personal commitment to the Lord. Our daily life must be submitted to the Lord. He must have first place in our lives.

It will be natural for you to want to worship the Lord privately. Here are some things to keep in mind as you minister to Him personally, and submit to His will:

1. *Worship God with faith.* “Without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6). It is by faith that we come near to our Lord. Believe that He is the God of Creation and the God of your salvation. Trust in His promises to provide for you all that you need.

2. *Worship with real meaning.* “Do not use my name for evil purposes, because I, the Lord your God, will punish anyone who misuses my name” (Exodus 20:7). As we call upon the name of the Lord we must sincerely believe in the power of that name. We have seen how the names of God reveal His very character. If we say to others “I am a Christian” (which means “Christ-like”) and then behave in a way that brings dishonor to His name, we are misusing His name. We can worship with real meaning when we are obedient to His Word and honor and respect His name in all our actions.

3. *Worship with joy.* Psalm 33:1 says “Shout for joy for what the Lord has done; praise him, all you that obey him.” Can you see how true worship depends upon our obedience? When we obey Him we please Him, and He fills our hearts with joy, which we express in our worship.

4. *Worship with freshness.* Psalm 33:3 says to “sing a new song” unto the Lord. God our Creator is pleased when we create new expressions of love and gratitude to Him. New experiences with the Lord will result in new “songs” for the Lord.

5. *Worship with hope.* God is our comfort and security. Let us “put our hope in the Lord; he is our protector and our help. We are glad because of him; we trust in his holy name” (Psalm 33:20). In your daily trials and problems, remember that God is the Lord over all the forces of nature, over time, and over every other power. He has given us victory in every situation. We will rejoice in His victory. There is nothing too difficult for God.

23 In what way does the church's ministry to God depend upon the individual Christian?

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In Service to Others

Another important way the church ministers to God is through its service to others. We worship God by serving others in the name of the Lord. Jesus said,

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. You can be sure that whoever gives even a drink of cold water to one of the least of these my followers because he is my follower, will certainly receive a reward (Matthew 10:40, 42).

The apostle Paul also said, "Let love make you serve one another" (Galatians 5:13).

To serve one another can be a physical or material service, but it can have the spiritual purpose of glorifying Christ. A cup of water in His name is a spiritual service. Christ gave an example of service when He washed the disciples' feet. He fed the multitudes bread, rather than sending them away hungry.



A SPIRITUAL SERVICE

God has given special gifts to the church for the purpose of ministry and service to others (1 Corinthians 12:7). The particular gift or gifts we receive are dependent on God's place for us in the body, but each gift is given that we might use it in service to other members of the body. We will be talking more about the gifts in the next lesson. Let us be good managers of God's gifts. The apostle Peter wrote these words concerning our service to others:

Above everything, love one another earnestly, because love covers over many sins. Open your homes to each other without complaining. Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. Whoever preaches must preach God's messages; whoever serves must serve with the strength that God gives him, so that in all things praise may be given to God through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and power forever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 4:8-11).

24 In your notebook, list the ways that you or other members of the body have ministered to God through service to others. Can you see how your service is truly a ministry unto God?

25 We have talked about three ways the church ministers to God. List each of the ways in your notebook without looking back at the lesson, and then write what you feel is the most important way to put each one into practice in your church. Do not rush through this exercise, but do it prayerfully, and ask God to help you learn how to minister to Him more fully, as a member of the body of Christ.

26 Before you take the self-test which concludes this lesson, I would like for you to examine the way you, yourself, are involved in ministry to God, and the way your local church ministers to Him. Put an X in the squares that most closely describe these ministries at the present time.

YOUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE:	Always	Usually	Some- times	Not Often	Never
a Do you take time daily to worship the Lord?					
b Do you worship Him in song?					
c Do you worship Him in praise and testimony?					
d Do you worship Him regularly in giving?					
e Are you inspired to worship Him through regular study of His Word?					
f Do you practice obedience of His Word so that you will not dishonor His name?					
g Is your life a good testimony of who God is and what He has done?					
h Do you minister to the Lord through service to your church or to members of the body?					
i Do you make a personal total commitment of yourself to God daily?					

YOUR CHURCH'S MINISTRY TO GOD:	Always	Usually	Some- times	Not Often	Never
a Is the song service truly a time of worship?					
b Is the sanctuary a place of order, beauty, and reverence?					
c Is time given for corporate worship in praise and testimony?					
d Are members of the body encouraged to minister to one another as part of their worship?					
e Is the offering given in a spirit of worship?					
f Is the Holy Spirit allowed freedom to lead the worship?					
g Can you recognize that the minister has carefully prepared and planned the service as a time of worship?					
h Does the prayer time begin with worship of the Lord and recognition of His worthiness to be worshiped?					

27 In your notebook list the ways you plan to improve your personal worship of the Lord.

28 List ways you would like to see your local church improve its public worship of the Lord.

29 Has this lesson made you more aware of God's worthiness to be worshiped?..... In what ways? (Write them in your notebook.)

self-test

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Select the one best answer to each question.

1 Worship can be defined as

- a) the way we atone for our sin.
- b) a recognition of the worth of God, and our response to that recognition.
- c) a feeling of love for someone or something.
- d) the act of bowing down or kneeling before someone.

2 God's desire that we worship Him, our own desire to worship Him, and the fact that He reveals Himself to us when we worship are all reasons why

- a) worship is not the only way to show we are Christians.
- b) we are not worthy to worship God.
- c) serving others cannot really be considered as worship.
- d) worship is necessary as a part of our ministry to God.

3 Worship starts with

- a) God coming near to man.
- b) man approaching God.
- c) service to others.
- d) telling God our needs.

4 The most clear way that God has revealed Himself to man is through

- a) nature.
- b) the prophets.
- c) His Son Jesus.
- d) miracles.

5 Worship in its highest nature is

- a) seen in our outward ministry.
- b) expressed by singing.
- c) inward and spiritual.
- d) possible only for angels.

- 6** Which of these is NOT true of sincere worship?
- It depends on following a certain ritual or ceremony.
 - It is a response of man's total being.
 - It involves the feelings of the one who worships.
 - It is an attitude of complete submission before God.
- 7** To worship God in spirit means that
- worship is not something we *do*, but something we *feel*.
 - prayer is the only effective way of worship.
 - our spirit must have communion with His Spirit.
 - we cannot understand worship with our minds.
- 8** Understanding the names of God is important to worship because
- His names reveal who He is and what He has done to be worthy of worship.
 - His names are too holy to be spoken aloud.
 - it is the only way He will meet our needs.
- 9** The name *Immanuel* means
- the living God.
 - the Almighty God is with us.
 - the healing Lord.
 - the Lord will provide.
- 10** Which name of Jesus most fully describes His part in God's redemptive plan?
- Counselor.
 - Prince of Peace.
 - Immanuel.
 - Savior.
- 11** The most important need of man that God has provided for is our need for
- material blessings in this life.
 - fellowship with other Christians.
 - fulfillment in our work.
 - unbroken fellowship with Him.

12 Which of these statements best explains the place of public worship in the life of a Christian?

- a) Public worship is good for those Christians who need to be around other people in order to worship, but it is not as important as private worship.
- b) Public worship is important for all Christians as an outward expression to the world of an inward communion with Christ. As all members participate together in worship, they are brought into closer fellowship with each other and with the Lord.

answers to study questions

- 14** Because He is the Creator who provides all that is needed for His creation.
- 1** The church (the body of Christ).
- 15** Check your answer with the examples we have given in this section.
- 2** From every tribe, nation, people, and language.
- 16** Through the sacrifice of His Son.
- 3** Any of these reasons: Because they love Him; because He is their Creator; because He redeemed them; because they will never again hunger or thirst or suffer in any way.
- 17** We must be cleansed by Christ's blood so that we are worthy to come before Him.
- 4** **a** True.
b False.
c True.
d False.
e True.
- 18** Your Answer. The Bible provides proof (Psalm 23:1, 136:25; Matthew 6:25-34), and we also *experience* His provision day by day.
- 5** (In any order) God wants us to worship Him. Man is born with a desire to worship. God reveals Himself to us when we worship Him.
- 19** Our need for unbroken fellowship with Him, which we will have in the eternal home He has prepared for us.
- 6** Your answer. Compare your list to our discussion of why we worship God, as you continue with this lesson.
- 20** Through Christ we are all made priests, and we have direct access to God in our public worship.

7 (Any of these) Through Creation, through the Word (Bible), through Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, through the church.

21 Your answer. I would say that they are ways that the church recognizes the worthiness of God to be worshiped and responds to His worthiness.

8 b) To honor God because we recognize His worth or value.

22 a True.

b False.

c False.

d True.

e False.

f True.

g True.

9 a True.

b True.

c False.

d True.

e True.

23 In order for the church to fulfill its ministry to the Lord, each member of the body must submit himself fully to God in obedience. He must spend time in private worship and his life must honor the Lord.

10 An attitude of complete surrender of his total being to God.

24 Your answer. You may have listed ways of serving in the church by teaching, cleaning the sanctuary, caring for small children, singing in the choir, etc. Or perhaps you have visited the sick, those in prison, helped the aged, encouraged someone who was suffering, etc. All of these are ministries to the Lord if they are done with the purpose of giving Him glory, and not to glorify ourselves.

11 (In your words) Worship takes place when God comes near to the believer, and the believer responds. It is the communion of God's Spirit with man's spirit.

25 Check your answer by reviewing the section *How the Church Ministers to God*. We minister in public worship, in personal daily submission, and in service to others.

- 12 a** Jesus.
b Immanuel (God Is With Us).
c Messiah.
d Son of the Most High God.
e Savior.
f King of kings, Lord of lords.
g Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

26-29 Your answers. I trust that you will put into practice the truths given in this lesson. Thank God for the great privilege He has given us, His creation, to have fellowship with Him through our worship!

- 13 a** Comforter, Helper.
b Spirit of Grace (Mercy).
c Spirit of Life.

For Your Notes