

The Expectations of Worship

It's another Wednesday night. It's been a long day. Yet, we have gathered here at the church building for another midweek worship service. We know that we ought to have the feelings of the Psalmist who joyfully proclaimed, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'" (Ps 122:1). And, though we'd never want to admit it, sometimes our soul says, as in Malachi, "My how tiresome it is" (Mal 1:13). Or, as Peterson states it, "I'm bored this doesn't do anything for me."



A. These thoughts take us to what is the purpose of worship and what should one expect from worship

What are some common misconceptions about worship?

1. Worship _____ with God

Our English word "worship" comes from the Latin, " _____"
Worship is the expressing of honor, esteem, appreciation and recognizing the importance or value of something. You praise the "worth"
Biblically, worship is about honoring God. We are saying, "How much is God _____ to you?"
Ps 34:3; 99:5; 95:2,6-7; 66:1-3

Why is asking, "what do I get from it," the wrong starting point when it comes to worship?

2. Worship is _____ by God

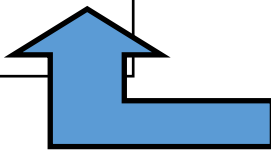
It was never spontaneous, nor left to the imagination of the worshippers.
God never says, "Surprise Me," "Do something different," or, "Be original."
- Gen 22:4-7; Ex 20:25; 1 Cor 11:23-24
- Those that did not worship the way God defined, found their worship _____ God (Mal 1:6-8)

3. Worship comes from a _____ that _____ the Lord (Ps 123:1-2)

Worship pleases God (Phil 4:18; Heb 13:15)

What can I do when I am just not in the mood to worship?

- Tired
- Angry
- Worried



Three Important Concepts Wrapped Around Worship

1. Worship is _____, even though we worship together
- No one can worship for you
2. Worship is something you _____ to God
- the word in the N.T. is many times a verb
- this is something you participate in rather than watch
3. Worship involves your _____
Singing is with thankfulness (Col 3:16)
Giving is with cheerfulness (2 Cor 9:7)

4. What should you expect when you come to worship?

- _____ the Lord



- Encouraged to _____ on with the Lord
- _____ more about the Lord and His word
- _____ of God's great blessings and promises
- Be strengthened _____ (Heb 10:24-25)
- Be _____ to give my best to _____ the Lord
- _____ & _____ the Lord

What helps you get into the right spirit to worship?