

Psalms 122:1 (NLT) I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Psalms 22:1–2 (NLT)

¹ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Why are you so far away when I groan for help?

² Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer.

Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.

The goal of worship is to meet with God

As we gather each week, our services and time together should be Bible centered, Spirit filled, and Christ exalted.

Do we come to worship for what we get out of it, or for what we can give to God? Are our motives self-centered?

Psalms 146:5 - 6 (NIV) Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, ⁶ the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—the LORD, who remains faithful forever.

Luke 5:1–3 (NLT) One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. ² He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. ³ Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there.

Singing praises is just the beginning of worship.

Isaiah 29:13 (NLT) And so the Lord says, "These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.

Luke 5:4-7 (NIV) ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

Luke 5:8-9 (NIV) ⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,

John 4:23 (NKJV) But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

Perhaps because our focus is on getting God's attention . . . Not on God getting our attention.

When you come before God in true worship your focus shifts from your "need" to God and who He is.

We become like what we worship.

Psalms 115:8 (NLT) ⁸ And those who make idols are just like them, as are all who trust in them.

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

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2nd Corinthians 9:6-8 (NKJV) ⁶ But this *I say*: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ *So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.* ⁸And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work.

2 Timothy 2:22 (NKJV) Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those **who call on the Lord** out of a **pure heart**.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV) ¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority (POWER) has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*"

Philippians 2:9-11 (NKJV) ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John 17:3 (NKJV) And this is eternal life, that they may **know** You, the only true God, **and** Jesus Christ whom You have sent.