

WINNING THE GAME OF

LIFE

Worship is a Lifestyle

- **For the Leader:**

- If you've spent much time in church the last few years, you probably heard lots of opinions about worship: "The worship music is too loud." "I wish we had more contemporary worship" "I wish we had more traditional worship." "There will be twenty minutes of worship and then a sermon."
 - We often say "worship" when we mean music, but as we study the life of King David we learn worship is about much more. David danced and sang before the Lord and wrote words we use even now in our praise choruses, but more importantly he consistently strived to please God with his thoughts and his actions. Worship is much more than the songs we sing. It's the lives we lead—lives being transformed by God.
 - Philip, in this week's scripture, was another person that was found by God who went on to find others by sharing about the grace of Jesus.
- **Scripture Study 2 Samuel 6:12-15. 17-18:**
 - For thousands of years, the Jewish people sacrificed animals, grain, and oil to God in this way. This included killing the animals, pouring out the blood at the base of the altar, cutting the animal into pieces, and then burning the carcass until there was nothing left. This system seems strange to us, but it was how God taught people to worship, and it was normal to them. There were daily sacrifices, sacrifices for specific sins, and sacrifices for festival days.
 - Of course, this temple sacrifice would inform the great sacrifice that Jesus would make for us on the cross.

WINNING THE GAME OF

LIFE

Worship is a Lifestyle

- **For the Group:**
- What has surprised you most about this group? What has God taught you in these five weeks?
- Did you grow up attending church? How did that experience shape your idea of what worship is?
 - Have you ever attended a worship service of a different faith? What was that experience like?
- **Discussion: Read 2 Samuel 6:12-15, 17-18**
- It was common for there to be religious dances at moments of great celebration, but they were usually only performed by the women. What additional insight does this give us into David's dancing before the Lord?
 - Why might he have made sacrifices after the people carrying God's chest had taken only six steps?
 - The chest was so important because it was the location of God's physical presence with God's people. Today, because Jesus came, we're all in God's presence continually. How does that affect your thoughts about weekend worship at church? What about your daily living?
- How has God changed your story during this five-week study? What new things is God asking you to do? What truth has transformed your heart?
 - As you walk forward in your relationship with God, what will you do differently as a result of what you've experienced in this group?
- Weekend worship should just be an overflow from the daily ways we worship with our life. How can you worship God with your life this week? How will that impact your experience in church?
 - When we worship, how can we make sure the focus is on God and not on us? How can you "give God your whole face" by paying attention to Him? How can you love Him back?
- As this is the last meeting in this study, take some time to celebrate the work God has done in the lives of group members. Have each person in the group share some step of growth he or she has noticed in another member.
- If your group still needs to make some decisions about continuing to meet after this session, have that discussion now. Talk about what can be studied, who will lead, and where/when a meeting can happen. Report that information to Nick.