

What Do You Worship?

Merchantville Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part altogether, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What's one thing you were really into as a kid that you can look back on now and laugh about?
2. If you could instantly master one new skill or hobby, what would it be and why?

Read the following passage: Psalm 98

Sunday's message brought us face-to-face with a tough question: *What do we actually worship?* We explored Psalm 98, a beautiful call to worship God with joy and reverence, and it pushed us to reflect on what holds our devotion. Lance Armstrong's story served as a vivid reminder of how easily success or personal ambition can become idols, leading us away from what really matters. Worship, as we learned, isn't just about a Sunday service or singing songs; it's a matter of what—or who—holds the center of our hearts every day. And the truth is, we all worship something, whether it's achievement, security, approval, or something else entirely.

Here is your invitation: let's get real about our "hidden" idols. Let's dig into those things we might prioritize over God without even realizing it. How can we begin to reorient our lives around the goodness and purpose of God, learning to worship Him as He truly deserves?

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. When you consider your day-to-day life, what takes most of your time, energy, or attention? Do you see any patterns that reveal what you might be worshipping?
2. Lance Armstrong's story reminds us of the dangers of prioritizing success above integrity. Have you ever experienced a moment when your ambitions were challenged or questioned? How did it impact your faith?
3. Psalm 98 describes a joyful, creation-wide worship of God. What does it look like for you to truly "worship with joy"? Is this an easy or difficult idea for you?
4. Is there a personal "idol" you feel ready to address, even if it's something subtle?
5. How does knowing you're made in God's image influence what or who you choose to worship?
6. Are there times you've found it hard to worship God because something else took priority? What helped (or didn't) to re-center your heart?
7. What changes could you make this week to live in a way that worships God more intentionally?

8. Imagine if God was truly at the center of every decision—how might that change the way you see success, relationships, or your sense of purpose?

Pray