

COMMUNITY GROUPS

living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: 10/19/2025

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

Sermon: Ted Rastatter

Questions: Phil Demeter

Wisdom for Worship Under the Sun is the topic for this week's sermon. Ted shared about a fictional character named Joey who cannot worship because he cannot stop talking. His own dreams and desires drown out his ability to listen to God. He wants to worship because he feels he needs to, but his actions to obey come from a more self serving nature than one that needs Jesus.

So how do we worship? How are we supposed to come into the presence of God? Let's chat and find out.

1. Enter Carefully. What does it mean to enter into worship carefully? Ted gave a couple examples; 2 Samuel 6:6-7 where Uzzah tries to steady the arc at the threshing floor but dies instantly from touching it, Acts 5 Ananias and Sapphira who sell their property, but they keep back money that they were not supposed to and die, and 1 Corinthians 11:28-30 where Paul explains that they needed to examine their hearts before take communion because some were becoming ill or even dying. What is the common theme in all of these examples?
2. Listen More Than You Speak. When we worship and pray what is the first thing we tend to do? Ted shared Matthew 17:3-8 when the 3 disciples saw Jesus' transfiguration, and Peter right away started talking about what they needed to do until God quieted them. In hindsight, what would have been a better response to what was happening? How do we do the same thing when coming into worship of Jesus today?
3. Enter with Humility. Why does God tell Moses to remove his sandals when Moses sees the burning bush? What is worship supposed to look like in the Christian faith? Colossians 1:17 says He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. How should we be approaching Jesus after reading this passage?
4. Do What You Say. James 5:12 tells us Above all brothers and sisters do not swear - not by Heaven or Earth or anything else. All you need to say is a simple "yes" or "no". Otherwise you will be condemned. Who would condemn us and why?

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Worship will be best when we come to Jesus being open, not surfacey. When we come with humility, not holding grudges by those who may have burnt us in the past. And remembering that we sin, we will sin again, we are not perfect, but the one who is the perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2) redeems us through His blood cleansing us making us clean able to stand before Him. It's a beautiful thing.