

## What is Worship?

### The What and the Why of Worship

#### The What:

- Romans 12:1-2
  - “Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God’s marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God’s will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.” TPT
- Worship is a pendulum swing between God’s revelation and our response back to him.
- In Robert Schaper’s definition of worship:
  - “Worship is the expression of a relationship in which God the Father reveals himself and his love in Christ, and by his Holy Spirit administers grace, to which **we respond in faith, gratitude, and obedience.**”
- Romans 12:1-2
  - “Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God’s marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, **experiencing all** that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a **total reformation of how you think.** This will empower you to discern God’s will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.” TPT
- The MSG translation:
  - “Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.” Romans 12:1 MSG
- Greek Meanings of Worship:
  - **Proskuneo:** to kiss toward-kneeling or bowing to someone, body gesture, total dependence. Honest and grateful submission.
  - **latreia/latreuo:** Service to God, implies a lifestyle of allegiance to God
  - **Phobeomai, seb:** Reverence, respect, to fear in positive ways (keeping his commands, obedience, turn from evil, to serve Him)
- Worship is a call to respond in **participation:** personally, and congregationally.

#### The Why

- Colossians 3:16
  - Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.
- Questions:
  - How are you going to respond today?
    - Will you participate in singing?  
Will you take this home with you, encouraged to live a life of worship?  
Will our corporate worship empower you to serve and encourage one another?