

Adoration: Praying with Awe and Reverence

A Bible Study on Worship and the Presence of God

Prepared for Merrell UMC

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Bible Translation: Common English Bible (CEB)

Introduction to Adoration

Scripture: Psalm 95:6–7 (CEB): “Come, let’s worship and bow down!...”

Key Thought: Adoration is honoring God for who He is, not just what He does.

Reflection Questions:

- What does it mean to adore God for who He is?
- How does adoration change the way we pray?

Jesus’ Patterns of Prayer

Scripture: Luke 5:16 (CEB): “Jesus would withdraw to deserted places for prayer.”

Key Thought: Jesus modeled intimacy with the Father through solitude and adoration.

Reflection Questions:

- What can we learn from Jesus’ pattern of withdrawing to pray?
- How can you make space for adoration in your own rhythm of prayer?

Persistent Prayer

Scripture: Luke 11:9–10; Luke 18:1 (CEB): “Ask and you will receive... always pray and never give up.”

Key Thought: Persistence reveals trust in God’s goodness and faithfulness.

Reflection Questions:

- Why is persistence important in adoration?
- What hinders us from remaining consistent in prayer?

Spirit of Adoption

Scripture: Romans 8:15–17 (CEB): “You didn’t receive a spirit of slavery... but adoption as children.”

Key Thought: Through the Spirit, we adore God as a loving Father.

Reflection Questions:

- How does knowing you're God's child transform your worship?
- What keeps us from seeing God as Father rather than Master?

Worship and God's Presence

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 5:13–14 (CEB): "The Lord's glory filled the temple..."

Key Thought: True worship centers on God's presence, not performance.

Reflection Questions:

- What does it look like for God's presence to fill our worship today?
- How can we create space for His glory in our gatherings?

Psalm 18 Reflection

Scripture: Psalm 18:1–2 (CEB): "I love you, Lord, my strength..."

Key Thought: God is our unshakeable refuge and protector.

Reflection Questions:

- Which of these images of God speaks to you most?
- How has God been your rock in difficult times?

Practicing Adoration Daily

Key Thought: Adoration becomes powerful when practiced daily. It realigns our hearts with heaven.

Reflection Questions:

- How will you practice adoration this week?
- What helps you focus on God's character in prayer?

Closing Prayer

Key Thought: "Lord, we adore You for who You are — our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Teach us to worship You in spirit and truth. May our lives reflect Your glory and love each day. Amen."