

# Series: Why We Worship

**Message Title:** Why We Worship (part 1)

## **Message & Scripture Highlights:**

Have a few people read the following scriptures:

### **John 4:23**

But a time is coming and is already here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit [from the heart, the inner self] and in truth; for the Father seeks such people to be His worshipers.

### **Psalm 100:2**

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come before His presence with singing!

## Discussion Part 1:

If Jesus says, “*The Father seeks such people to be His worshipers*”, then I think we can all agree, worship is a pretty big deal. The question is ‘why’ is it so important? Is it possible that God “*seeks such people*” not so much for what He gets out of it, but what we get from Him?

## S.Marshall thoughts:

As you look again at Psalm 100:2 think about the term ‘spiritual protocol’ that I used in this first message on Why We Worship. Singing is part of God’s instruction for coming before His presence, and I am quite sure not just any singing will do. It must have something of John 4:23 in it - true worship.

Have someone read:

### **2 Chronicles 20:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> When he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers to sing to the Lord and praise Him in their holy garments as they went out before the army, saying, Give thanks to the Lord, for His mercy *and* loving-kindness endure forever!

<sup>22</sup> And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who had come against Judah, and they were [self-] slaughtered;

## Discussion Part 2:

Imagine facing an army of terrorists that want to kill you and the ultimate answer is getting the choir together to sing praises to God. You’ve probably prayed before when in trouble, but how would you apply this spiritual tactic? (Think Paul & Silas in Acts)

Stephen Marshall Thoughts:

Isn't it interesting how it is one thing to say you believe God's Word, and it's quite another thing to actually apply it? Worship is really where the 'rubber hits the road'. Your worship is evidence of your faith.

**Life Application:**

Jesus sang hymns with His disciples. This may stretch your comfort, especially if you don't feel like you are good at singing, but practice spiritual protocol and sing a hymn together. Invite God's Holy Spirit to touch your worship and WORSHIP. Dare to obey.

**Now Pray The Word:**

Get someone (or a few people) to lead out in prayer based on the Truth talked about. Pray according to the above scriptures:

*“Father God we hear what Jesus said in John 4 and we desire to be true worshippers coming before You in spirit and in truth. You are seeking after a people who will act on Your instructions to come before Your presence with singing. Your Word tells us in 2 Chronicles 20 that the battle belongs to You. We get the honor of praising and worshiping You. Now we see that worship is part of spiritual warfare. Open our eyes Father to see Your goodness, Your glory, and faithfulness to help us. We exalt You! (Continue to pray specifically for one another's needs ...)*