

## The Heart of Worship — The Most Holy Place

### Sermon Companion Overview + Weekly Individual Practice

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#### Sermon Summary: The Most Holy Place

The Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies) represents the deepest dimension of worship — **intimate access to the presence of God**. In the Tabernacle, this sacred space was separated by the veil and entered only once a year by the High Priest for atonement. Every element pointed forward to Jesus Christ and the worship life now available to believers.

#### 1. The Objective of True Worship

Jesus teaches in **John 4:23–24 (NIV)** that the Father seeks worshippers who worship **in spirit and in truth**. Worship is no longer merely external ritual but an internal, Spirit-empowered reality grounded in truth.

 **Key insight:** Worship moves from location → to relationship.

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#### Patterns & Parallels

##### The High Priest → Jesus Our Mediator

- The High Priest was God-appointed, representing the people before God (**Hebrews 5:1–5**).
- Only he could enter the Most Holy Place on the Day of Atonement.
- Jesus fulfills and surpasses this role.

##### New Testament fulfillment:

- **1 Timothy 2:5** — One mediator between God and humanity.
- **Hebrews 4:14** — Jesus is our Great High Priest.
- **Hebrews 9:22** — His own blood secures atonement.

 **Application:** We no longer approach God through human priests — **we come through Christ directly**.

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## The Veil → Access Through Christ

The veil symbolized humanity's separation from God because of sin.

- Thick, beautifully woven barrier.
- Only the High Priest could pass through.
- Represented both **separation and restricted access**.

### Fulfillment in Christ:

- **Matthew 27:50–51** — The veil torn from top to bottom.
- **Hebrews 10:19–20** — We now have confidence to enter.
- **Ephesians 2:18** — Access to the Father through Jesus.

 **Big Idea:** What was once restricted is now relational.

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## The Ark of the Covenant → Christ at the Center

The Ark represented God's visible presence and contained:

Item	Meaning	Fulfillment in Christ
Mercy Seat	God's throne & mercy	Jesus is our mercy
Ten Commandments	God's holy law	Jesus fulfilled the Law (Matt. 5:17)
Jar of Manna	God's provision	Jesus the Bread of Life (John 6)
Aaron's Rod	God's chosen priest	Jesus the Anointed One

 **Central truth:** Everything in the Most Holy Place pointed to Jesus.

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## Four Signs of a True Worshipper

True worship produces visible spiritual fruit:

1. **God's Mercy — His Covering**  
(Lam. 3:22–23; Heb. 4:16)
2. **God's Mandate — His Word written on our hearts**  
(Jer. 31:33; 2 Cor. 3:3)

### 3. God's Manna — His Provision

(Phil. 4:19; Ps. 23)

### 4. God's Mark — His Choice

(John 15:16; 1 Peter 2:9)

✅ **Bottom line:** True worship is not just expressed — **it is evidenced.**

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## **Becoming a Worshipping Community**

Israel organized their entire life around God's presence in the center of the camp. Likewise, Christ Culture Community is being called to:

- Move from **surrender (Outer Court)**
- Through **service (Holy Place)**
- Into **intimacy and expectation (Most Holy Place)**

**Worship is a lifestyle organized around God's presence.**

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## **One-Week Personal Worship Practice**

*(5–10 minutes daily)*

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### **Day 1 — Enter With Confidence**

 Read: Hebrews 10:19–22

 Practice: Spend 3 minutes thanking Jesus for giving you direct access to the Father.

 Reflect: Where do I still approach God with hesitation or distance?

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### **Day 2 — Receive His Mercy**

 Read: Lamentations 3:22–23

 Practice: Sit quietly and name areas where you need God's mercy.

 Declare: "His mercies are new for me today."

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### Day 3 — Write the Word on Your Heart

 Read: Jeremiah 31:33

 Practice: Choose one short scripture and write it by hand.

 Pray that God would internalize His Word within you.

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### Day 4 — Trust His Provision

 Read: Philippians 4:19

 Practice: Release one worry about provision to God.

 Journal: Where have I seen God provide before?

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### Day 5 — Remember You Are Chosen

 Read: 1 Peter 2:9

 Practice: Speak this identity aloud over yourself.

 Thank God for choosing and calling you.

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### Day 6 — Practice Spirit & Truth Worship

 Read: John 4:23–24

 Practice: Spend 5 minutes in personal worship (song or spoken praise).

 Focus on sincerity over performance.

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### Day 7 — Center Your Life Around His Presence

 Read: Psalm 23

 Practice: Sit in silence for 3 minutes, simply aware of God's presence.

 Reflect: What would it look like for God to be at the center of my daily life this week?

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## Closing Encouragement

Because of Jesus, the veil is torn.

Because of Jesus, access is granted.

Because of Jesus, we are invited not just to visit God's presence — **but to live there.**