## Reflecting on Today's Message: What is Worship? August 19, 2018

Introduction: The purpose of today's message was to discuss a biblical definition of worship. The key passage we discussed were John 4:19-24 and Romans 12:1. The definition we arrived at is as follows:

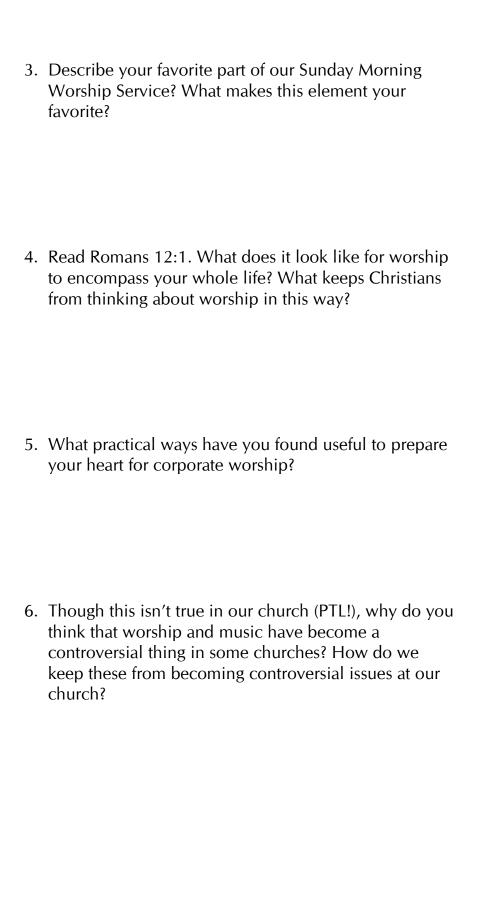
Worship is the response of adoration, praise, and obedience of the redeemed to God and the person of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Worship occurs in corporate and private settings, and it encompasses the whole of the believer's life.

1. Discuss the above definition of worship. What do you like about it? If you were writing your own definition what elements would you include that aren't included in this definition?

2. Work through the list of worship elements on the next page. Place a 'W' by the items that technically qualify as worship (i.e., according to the definition above), and an 'N' by the ones you would not classify as worship. Put a '?' by the ones that you aren't sure about. Discuss your answers with the group.

## Question continued from previous page.

instrumental prelude
microphone squeals as the sound board is tested
the soloist rehearsing their song before the service
chatting around the coffee break area
watching the missionary requests scroll in the foyer
the announcements
the opening prayer
singing the opening hymn
shaking hands and greeting between songs 1 and 2
the prayer for the offering
the offering
the offertory
the Scripture Reading
the "special music"
the prayer before the sermon
the sermon
the invitation
the Lord's Supper
the closing prayer
the after service fellowship
the discussion groups in Sunday School
the fellowship meal



7.	Read John 4:19-24. Rewrite in your own words what Jesus is telling the woman about worship?
	What do you think was the hardest part for her to understand?
8.	One of the most difficult claims to make in our culture is that Jesus is the <i>only</i> way to God and true worship can <i>only</i> be offered by those who know God through Jesus. Why are these exclusive claims distasteful to our society?
	Why is it important that we maintain this exclusive truth that Jesus is the only way?