

## What Happens When You Worship

Calgary Life Church

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### **Rom. 12:1 NIV**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

### **Col. 3:23,24 NKJV**

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Serving is more than fulfilling a duty, a hole, or an obligation – it's our worship!

### **At least three things happen when you worship/serve:**

#### **1. God Shows Up!**

Stuff happens!

Big stuff!

And people talk about it for generations.

#### **Creation:**

##### **Gen. 1:2,3 NKJV**

The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said,

#### **Abraham:**

True to God's word Abram has a son, which becomes a nation and eventually received a promised land. God made his home with Israel. Israel grew, prospered, and expanded.

It was a testimony to everyone. When God shows up nothing stays the same, things never go back to the way they were.

And people talk about it, sing about, and write stories about for generations to come.

**Jesus:**

Jesus lived among us and showed us the way to have a relationship with the Heavenly Father. His title was Immanuel, which means God with us, God in a body with human flesh and bones.

He revealed a relationship that could be characterized by intimacy and closeness. A relationship like Adam and Eve enjoyed with God before they sinned.

Amazing things happened, blind eyes were opened, ears we're healed, and the cripple stood up and danced. The sick became healthy, and the hungry were fed. Even the dead were brought to life. No one had ever seen miracles like that.

When God shows up the world is never the same. Songs are sung, stories are told, and lives are changed.

**You:**

**1Cor. 12:27 NKJV**

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

You are the body of Christ. When you show up, He shows up!  
Big things happen and generations talk about it.  
Songs are sung in stories are told and lives are changed.

**John 14:10 NKJV**

but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

Now it's your turn.

It is not about doing something nice. It is about doing something life-changing. It's about God showing up.

People in our city are wondering where was God? Answer, He's in you. What happens when you serve? You get to experience God in action. You get to see him move.

## **2. You Become A Light**

### **Matt. 5:14 NKJV**

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

He didn't say I am the light of the world in this passage. He was preparing His Church. You are the light of the world.

You all know someone who is in the darkness of a bad diagnosis, depression, divorce, addiction, financial troubles etc. Or maybe they are asking questions about spirituality.

The world is in gross darkness.

He sends you.

In a world where the power is out, you have a flashlight.

Not because you are perfect, or have it all together, or are better than anyone else. But because you have met Jesus, the Inventor of Light.

Of course God wants you to serve.

### **Luke 4:8 NKJV**

You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' ”

One light may not be much.

Many lights in unified wavelengths become a laser.

## **3. You Discover A Greater Existence**

Let's be honest. Yes! It costs.

If I was trying to talk you into serving/worshipping I could talk to you about Jesus;

Who gave it all:

### **Phil. 2:7,8 NKJV**

but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

I could even guilt you:

Jesus died, so you could certainly serve in kids! Show up on time!

Or perhaps, I could point out nothing truly happens without sacrifice:

**John 12:24 NKJV**

Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.

Yes! If you are serious about salvation coming to our city, families being reconciled, poverty being eradicated, then you better be prepared to die!

Yes, these are true. But there's so much more than just doing your part.

**Acts 20:35 NKJV**

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, "It is *more blessed* to give than to receive.' "

**Matthew 10:39 NKJV**

He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

It's not just the dutiful thing to do but the life-giving thing to do.

**Hebrews 12:2 NKJV**

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,

Guilt did not move Jesus to the cross. It was for the joy that was set before Him. He experienced more happiness giving his life away and holding onto it, and He's inviting us to do the same.

When Engaged in Serving/Worshipping You Experience:

- **Greater Joy**
- **Deeper Community**
- **Meaningful Significance**
- **Genuine Intimacy**

**Eph. 2:10 NKJV**

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

**Phil. 3:10 NKJV**

that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

God is not sitting still. He is moving, building, and pursuing. And He asked us to follow him, to love him, crucify our sinful nature, and imitate His Son. He is also asking us to get down in the trenches and be his hands and feet. In that lonely place, we find a whole new level of closeness with him.

The invitation to serve is not just an invitation to fill holes or do our church a favor, it is an invitation to find life like never before. It is an invitation into joy, community, significance, and intimacy with your Heavenly Father. It's an invitation to a greater existence.