



Your Relationship With God is the Key to Worship

December 6, 2023

Your Relationship With God Is The Key to Worship

- Worship Is The Act And Attitude Of Whole-heartedly Giving Ourselves To God, Spirit, Soul, And Body
- **Colossians 3:23–24 (NIV84)** — **23** Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, **24** since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
- “Worship Is Giving To God The Best He Has Given Us”

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- (Luke 10:38-42 NIV) As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. (39) She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. (40) But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" (41) "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, (42) but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

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- We Are Here To Be
 - Worshippers First
 - Workers Second
- *“The Work Done By A Worshipper Will Have Eternity In It” – A.W. Tozer*
- We Need to Get to Know Jesus and Worship At His Feet

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- Rom 12:1-2 (NIV) "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship." (2) "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will."

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

1. THE STEP OF DESIRE:

- We Worship God Not Out Of Duty But Out Of Desire
- (Gen 29:20 NIV) So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her.

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2. ASKING GOD FOR A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM:

- Psa 42:1-2 (NIV) As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God." (2) "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?"

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- Psa 23:6 (NIV) "Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."
- Psa 26:8 (NIV) "I love the house where you live, O LORD, the place where your glory dwells."

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- Psa 27:4 (NIV) "One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple."
- Psa 84:10 (NIV) "Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked."
- Psa 122:1 (NIV) "I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD.""

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

- “You Have Not Because You Ask Not.”
- Mat 7:7-8 (NIV) ""Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (8)
"For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

3. THE STEP OF DRAWING NEAR

- James 4:8 (NIV) "Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."
- We Get To Know God Well When We Draw Near and Spend Quality Time With Him

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

4. THE STEP OF PERFECTING & PRACTICE

- To Do Anything Well Takes Practice
- You Perfect A Relationship By
 - Making Regular Contact
 - Striving To Make The Relationship Better

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

5. OFFERING A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE

- We should follow David's example and never offer to God something that cost us nothing.
- *Worship Is The Step Of Giving Yourself Totally To God -- Spirit / Soul / Body. By Offering Acceptable Tokens Of Worship*

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

6. THE STEP OF BELIEVING:

- Seeking Him Is A Sign Of Our Belief In Him
- Worship Will Pay Off As God Rewards Those Who Seek Him
- Believing = The Constant Understanding That God Is Always There

7 Steps To A Strong Relationship With God

7. THE STEP OF RECEIVING:

- We Receive: The Presence Of God
- Receiving Is About Getting What We Have Been Seeking:
Entrance Into His Presence

Your Relationship With God Is The Key to Worship

- True Worship Starts With A Good Relationship With God
- *It Takes Place In The Life Of The Believer Who Has Stepped Thru Each Of These 7 Steps In Their Own Walk With Christ:*
 - 1. Desire***
 - 2. Asking God For Growth***
 - 3. Drawing Near In Faith***
 - 4. Perfecting & Practicing***
 - 5. Offering Sacrificial Praise***
 - 6. Believing***
 - 7. Receiving***