

:: summary

We are in week one of our Worship series with the tag line “all in / all out,” because when we deepen in our understanding of who God is and what He has done for us, our natural response will be to go “all in” for Him in the way we live and “all out” in the way we worship. This week, we explored a more holistic definition of worship that encapsulates every aspect of our physical and spiritual being as we encounter the living God and offer all of who we are for all of who God is.

:: discussion

The word “worship” has in many ways lost its meaning and context in a cultural landscape of celebrity worship and American idols. Even in the weekly routines of church, worship can become a diluted and overfamiliar word associated with songs that have a set place in a Sunday gathering. It is our desire to reclaim this term and infuse it with the richness of the ideas it conveys in Scripture.

What comes to mind when you think of worship? What does worship mean to you?

Read Psalm 150:1-2

In these verses the psalmist gives context for worshipping God, using terms like “in his sanctuary” and “in his mighty heavens.” How do these words affect your perception of what is happening as you worship God?

What characteristics of God does David emphasize in these verses, and how have you seen or experienced those traits in your own walk with God so far?

Have you ever considered this heavenly context or these traits of God in your worship? How does the scale of what is happening and Who you are worshipping impact your posture as a worshipper?

On Sunday, we talked about how worshipping God with all of who we are depends on understanding who God is in His proper context over creation, as well as acknowledging who He is in our own lives as the one who saved us from death and gave us the gift of eternal life. As you consider the worship you offer God on Sunday and in your private times of worship, is there a difference between how you would react if you won the lottery and how you worship God as your Savior?

Read Psalm 150:3-6

What does the long list of instruments imply about how we are to worship God? Does the list challenge your scope of what worship can look like?

What could it look like for you to worship in the freedom that comes from knowing you have been set free from the chains of sin and death? Do you feel free to worship that way now? Why or why not?

In the church, there is often a polarizing opinion about worship experiences being defined by stoic reverence or ecstatic emotion. On the spectrum of reverence and emotion, where do you find yourself? Do you believe there is room for both?

Where do you find each of these aspects of worship in Psalm 150? How does that shape the definition of full freedom in worship?

Does any of this affirm or challenge your understanding up to this point of what worship is? What could it look like in your life to more fully worship God and offer all of who you are to Him?



For more details and messages in this series, head to www.gracewaylife.org.