

Week 2- "Worship And Fear"

In this series we get to hear from different staff members on what they are learning in their walk with God. In this week's message, Rebekah asks three questions and how she has discovered that the answers to these questions are essential to life and identity.

What is Worship?

Tim Keller says this: "Worship is an act of ascribing ultimate value to something or someone in a way that engages your entire being. Your mind, will, and emotions...your whole being... Everyone worships something. The only choice you get is what you worship... sin has caused our affections to stray, propelling us to worship relationships, achievement, and work- everything but God... our ultimate problem is what we worship." Tim goes on to say: "If we can identify what our greatest fear is, then we know what our heart is most after. Understanding our greatest fear is to know our greatest love."

- 1. What is your greatest fear?
- 2. What does this communicate about your greatest love?

Why does Worship Matter?

Proverbs 14:27 says: "The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death." To fear the Lord means to be overwhelmed with wonder before God." -Tim Keller

3. What is your greatest love ultimately leading you toward?

4. In what ways do you need freedom from the thing you fear the most?

How do we exchange our fears and strivings for a life defined by our worship and love for God?

Read Romans 12:1, Ephesians 2:4-5, and 1 John 4:9-10

In view of God's mercy is to realize that you are more sinful than you ever dared believe, yet more loved than you ever dared imagine, and in Christ you are more whole than you dared hope.

- 5. What do you think it practically looks like to have a daily awareness of your sin nature and your need for a Savior?
- 6. What role do you think sacrificing self for Savior plays in finding freedom from your greatest fear?
- 7. What does it say about God's heart for you that He invites you to find freedom from fear through Worship in Him?
- 8. What step can you take this week to re-posture your heart toward love for God?

So often our worship, our love, our fears are leading us to the empty promises of self. God's heart is constantly pulling us toward Him, to life everlasting. We can't re-posture our heart without God's grace, what Christ has done. In view of God's mercy, He invites us to exchange our deepest fears for worship in Him that leads us to life, love, peace, joy, and freedom.