

July 29, 2018
DIVE IN - Part 4
“Worship”

Wherever we find ourselves, every day is an opportunity to draw close to God. Every. Day.

James 4:8 (NLT) “Draw close to God and He will draw close to you...”

People desperately need the love that only Jesus can give, and the people of the Church, you and I, are the ones called to bring it. YOU are ministers!

When it comes to knowing God, you were meant to be lean, powerful hunters seeking after His truth and discovering the rich depths of His love!

The most common word for worship is the Greek word *Proskuneo*.

1. Prostrating yourself before God 2. Literally adore.

The Hebrew word for worship, *shachah*, simply means to bow.

Worship and being stiff necked can't go hand in hand. Submitting is letting go of my will and my way so I can embrace God's will and God's way.

Mark 5:1-7 (NIV) “They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.^[a] ² When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him.³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. ⁴ For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.⁷ He shouted at the top of his voice, ‘What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?’”

HERE'S ONE WAY YOU CAN DIVE IN!

“Spend 40 days starting your day like the demon-possessed man. For 40 days, roll out of bed, get on your face before the Lord and ask, ‘What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?’ I guarantee it will change your life-it will change everyone's life that you come in contact with. Why? Because Jesus can work through a humble, submitted heart.

The demon-possessed man asked the right question with the right posture. And the answer? Here's what Jesus wants for him and gives him. Salvation. Freedom. Restoration. Healing. Wholeness. Sanity. Life abundant.” -Zach Neese

The second most used word for worship is the Greek word, *Latreuo* which means to minister to God or to serve Him.

We don't go to a birthday party to get what we can out of it, we go to celebrate the birthday girl or boy and show them our love, and we shouldn't worship for what we get out of it but to adore Jesus and show Him how much we value Him.

The Old English origin of the word worship came from *worthship*. It means to give something worth or attribute value. We worship to outwardly express how much God means to us.

Worship done right is an offering, a sacrifice, obedience, and a testament to the value we place on God. It costs us something. It gives people who witness our devotion a reason to follow Jesus... or not. Our actions speak louder than our words.

Jesus- ³⁰ *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.* (NIV) Mark 12:30

HEART, SOUL, MIND, AND STRENGTH MEANS:

1. It's Emotional-total adoration AND
2. It's Authentic-from our very soul AND
3. It's Mental-it's a deliberate choice regardless of circumstances AND
4. It's Physical-it's an outward expression.

You were created to express your passion outwardly. The honest question is, "What or who are you passionate about?"

HOW DO I DIVE IN?

1. Draw close to God.
2. Check our posture and our attitude
3. Commit ourselves to serving God and
4. Show Him how much He's worth to us.

SOME ACTION DIVES!

Dive in from Poolside- Get into the water!

- Commit to 90 days of attending church regularly and coming ready to engage completely,
- Pray and ask Jesus to be Lord of your life and get in the water.
- Get baptized tonight!

Dive in from the Shallow Water- Trust God to take you into deeper waters!

- Join a group and serve on a team.
- Begin studying God's word and praying daily.
- Take the 90-day tithing challenge.

Dive in from the High Dive- Take a Leap of Faith!

- Lead a group
- Go on mission.
- Share your story.

Gateway's Find It page (www.gateway-community.org/find-it/).

Get the *Life Journal* Bible Reading Plan at gateway-community.org/Find-it

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