

THRIVE: Thrive by Worshipping Part 3

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Worship: Jake Schwein and Lauren Pickthorn

Worshipping: Glorifying & Enjoying God

Worship is a lifestyle that permeates every aspect of our lives. Worship is seen in how we manage our money, how we run our business, how we parent our kids, how we respond to people and how we manage our dreams and ambitions. The heart of worship is a heart that enjoys God for who He is and all that He has done for us.

SERMON NOTES:

Luke 7:36-50

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

"Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

- What are you trusting in to save you?
- In what ways do you see yourself as better than others?
- Do you see Jesus as the hope of redemption or are you, like Simon the Pharisee, focused more on your knowledge and things that you define as the letter of the law?
- Is your response to the forgiveness of God to give Him your all? Your most valuable possessions and parts of you? Or are you bringing a more anemic offering?
- Do you see yourself as needing Him in all things or are you only leaning into God for those things you don't think you can handle yourself?

Matthew 26:6-13 & Mark 14:3-9

While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head as he was reclining at the table.

When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. 'Why this waste of perfume? It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor.' And they rebuked her harshly.

Leave her alone, said Jesus. 'Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. She did what she could. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for my burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.'

- What box are you putting Jesus in these days?
- Are you finding yourself easily offended these days? Are you picking that offense up and nursing it, or are you releasing it to Jesus?

A Prayer: *I'm beginning to feel offended and I don't want to walk in that. I will not pick up this offense and carry it as my own. Show me how to listen and love others rather than walk in offense and build a case against someone else.*

- Have you ever said yes to God when it didn't make sense? When you didn't understand? What did that teach you about God? About yourself?