



The Cost of Worship

My Soul Sings // Week 2

Pastor Tim Moore

Overview

This week, Pastor Tim continued our series, My Soul Sings, by diving deeper into the reality of the cosmic war for our worship. Worship is far more than singing songs, although that is part of it. It's also action. And sacrifice. Just as sacrificing an animal from the flock or the first fruits of the harvest cost the Israelites, so should our worship cost us something. It could be our time as we serve and help a neighbor, it could be raising our hands for the first time as we sing on Sunday, and it certainly should be our tithes and offerings. When worship costs us something, it shows that worshipping God is important to us and that he is truly worthy of our time, attention, and treasure.

Opening Conversation

What is something that has cost you—such as starting your own business, going to school, marriage? What was the cost? What has been the outcome?

Read 1 Chronicles 21:1-4, Exodus 30:11-12

- What are some of the subtle ways Satan attacks your worship?
- Taking a census was a sin, possibly because it focused David on the power he had in his army and not on the power of God. By not taking the required offering which made a census an act of worship, the census became an expression of David's sin of pride. How can we fall into the same type of sin?
- When we choose to follow Jesus, his Enemy becomes our Enemy. Before this message, how aware were you of this spiritual reality? What are the dangers of overemphasizing this? Of underemphasizing it?

Read 1 Chronicles 21:16, 18-19

- God commands David to make his worship an action. In what ways can you worship God by your actions?

If it Costs Me Nothing It Isn't Worth Much

- Why is this a true statement? If it costs you, it's important to you. Why is that also true?

Read 1 Chronicles 21:22-24

- Describe Cheap Worship. What are ways worship can become costly? What happens when your worship costs you something?
- When is a time you offered God a sacrifice of praise, when worshipping was a decision of your will, not because you felt like it?
- Pastor Tim described Free Worship as worship without giving. How is giving to God an act of worship? How does it parallel the sacrifices that the Israelites offered in the Old Testament? What message are we sending to God when we don't give? What message does that send to our culture that is watching us?

- When worship is costly for us, how does God respond?
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Application

This week, meditate on and memorize our key verse, 1 Chronicles 21:24: “But King David replied to Araunah. ‘No, I insist on paying the full price. I will not take for the Lord what is yours, or sacrifice a burnt offering that costs me nothing.’” Pray and ask God to show you a way to make your worship costly, and then do it. Let’s pray for each other as we take a step into worship that is intentional and costly.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, forgive me for the times I have been nonchalant about worshipping you, taking my access to your presence for granted. I do not want to offer you lukewarm, cheap worship. I want to worship you from a heart that is surrendering to you more and more each day. That surrender costs me, but you are worth the sacrifice, Jesus. You gave your all for me. I want to give my all for you by living a life of ever-increasing worship of you by my words and actions. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Upcoming Events:

- 7/12 – 7/19 XO Week Events
- 7/20 – 7/24 XYZ

Resources:

- To request prayer: <https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/13150>
- To meet with a Pastor: <https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/534644>
- Financial Assistance, Sobriety Resources, grief support, and more: <https://thex.church/care/>

X Church Podcast: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8rUS49luWYwojA6eKIA_VuAO592ZYQgd