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*DAY ONE BRIAN GIBBS*

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I want welcome all of you joining in for this “HEART OF WORSHIP” fast. I have been anticipating this special fast Unto The Lord. As I began to approach this time and ask the Lord about speaking to us – I could feel the “drawing” of the Holy Spirit. I feel such fresh weight and anointing on the word “drawing.” In the book of Jeremiah, The Lord says, “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness” (Jer. 31:3 NKJV). God is moving freshly at Victory, and I believe that most are really aware of it – it is sacred and holy. There is fresh oil being poured into us.

As I sat down to begin this first devotional in quietness, I could feel the brewing of worship and these words flowing forth:

Lord this is my desire...to pour my love on You  
Like oil upon Your feet  
Like wine for You to drink  
Like water from my heart  
I pour my love on You  
If praise is like perfume  
I'll lavish mine on You  
'Till every drop is gone  
I'll pour my love on You  
(Song lyrics from Pour My Love on You, 2001)

As we have set the focus and theme of this fast on the returning to the heart of worship, I am so moved in my own heart, because this is such a core passion of my walk with The Lord. I feel before I am anything, I am a worshipper. Before I walk in the responsibilities and

**privileges of being a husband, a father, a leader and pastor...I'm a worshipper. I love to give honor and glory every day to the Lord through my life – that is worship.**

**Bren and I pray each day that our lives bring The Lord Jesus glory. Worship is not just the times that we've set apart in church services for hours of songs, praise, soaking, flagging or dancing. Worship is the heart of a man or woman that is set on releasing the gift of honor, gratitude, thanksgiving and their soul exalting The Lord for all that He is in our lives. When our hearts can see the beauty of The Lord in our lives and in the world around us, we cannot help but lift a "thank you" which is a gift of worship to Jesus.**

**Worship is a "thank you" that refuses to be silent. In Psalms 30:21 (NKJV), it says, "So I will not be silent; I will sing praises to you. Lord, you are my God, I will give thanks to you forever." Worship is an ongoing and endless "thank you" to our King. I want to give thanks forever to The Lord with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. I want all that I am and ever will be to declare my love for God. Who is like The Lord? Who alone is worthy of all the praise, honor, majesty and glory? Who alone is The Eternal God and Ancient of Days? There is no one like the Lord!**

**I love to sing among the family of God and experience the movements and currents of praise to The Lord. It's like endless waves rolling in upon the shores...it's an eternal melody where our praises can go on and on. I love the musicians to lift anthems and choruses of worship and praise. I love the lifting of the banners and flags in honor of His name and character. But most of all, I love when my whole heart connects with Jesus in the Spirit, and I can bring the pure oil and pure worship of love – pouring it on The Lord. I desire my heart to be a pure offering.**

**I often think about the words that God spoke to the Prophet Samuel when he went to Jesse's house to anoint a new King for Israel. Before Samuel met David, he looked at all of Jesse's sons and especially**

**upon his oldest – Eliab. In 1 Samuel, it reads like this: “But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7 ESV).**

**God looks deeper, far beyond the surface...God looks upon and into the hearts of men. He listens to the intents and motives of the heart. He listens for the melodies and rhythms of the heart – a soul that sings “thank you.” The heart of worship is a heart set on devotion, purity, intimacy and union with Jesus. The heart of a real worshipper carries the special fragrance of love that is God’s favorite aroma. God is attracted to humility, purity and a heart of gratitude.**

**Amazingly, Jesus told the woman at the well in the Gospel of John: “Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth” (John 4:23-24). Did you catch that? The priority of God is not seeking worship – but for real worshippers. God is seeking the hearts of men and women who have their hearts set on him.**

**Years ago, Matt Redman wrote a little song that went viral. A band from England called “Delirious” recorded it, and it became a global anthem for the Body of Christ. Here’s the words to that heart cry:**

**When the music fades  
All is stripped away  
And I simply come  
Longing just to bring  
Something that's of worth  
That will bless Your heart  
I'll bring You more than a song  
For a song in itself  
Is not what You have required**

**You search much deeper within  
Through the ways things appear  
You're looking into my heart  
I'm comin' back to the heart of worship  
And it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
When it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
King of endless worth  
No one could express  
How much You deserve  
Though I'm weak and poor  
All I have is Yours  
Every single breath  
I'll bring You more than a song  
For a song in itself  
Is not what You have required  
You search much deeper within  
Through the way things appear  
You're looking into my heart  
I'm coming back to the heart of worship  
And it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
When it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus I'm comin' back to the heart of worship  
'Cause it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
'Cause it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus, yeah  
All about You  
I'll bring You more than a song  
(Heart of Worship, 1998)**

**As you enter into this fast and set yourself apart to pray, worship and seek God's face...may He look right into your heart and receive your love and devotion...may He hear your melodies...may it be a pure oil, a pure offering, a pure song honoring The King of Glory! May you have fresh encounters in the Presence of the Lord during this fast. I'm praying for each of you as I know the Lord is drawing us into the secret and sacred place.**

**God says over each of you today: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness" (Jeremiah 31:3 NKJV).**

**Throughout this week of devotionals, we will be receiving from several on our Victory worship team, and I anticipate great words and life coming with Holy Spirit's fresh impartation. As we draw near to The Lord, may this fast ignite fresh worship, praise, passion and celebration for the The Lord.**

**Lord, may VICTORY - A Church of Your Presence be overflowing with a pure worship that touches Your heart and creates a sacred space for you to rest and dwell in manifest presence, joy and glory. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.**

**Be blessed, Friends!  
Pastor Brian**