

HEART READY 1 - PREPARING FOR MORE OF GOD

I. GETTING HEART READY

A. PREPARING MY HEART THROUGH WORSHIP

THE TEST OF THE PAST 1 1/2 YEARS IN WORSHIP. HUMBLING TO NOT PRESENT A LIVE WORSHIP BAND IN A CHURCH WITH THE PRIMARY VALUE OF WORSHIP AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

LIVE WORSHIP IS NOT NECESSARILY ALIVE WORSHIP
I WANT ALIVE, SPIRIT-BREATHED WORSHIP

1. MUSIC MINISTERS TO THE SPIRIT - *Power in the music*

1Sam. 16:23 *And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.*

2. HOW TO STEP BEYOND THE MUSIC (Matt Redman - Heart of Worship)

- **ILLUSTRATION - EXAMPLE OF MATT REDMAN'S CHURCH** when he wrote, "The Heart of Worship"

*"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"*

- **USE SANCTIFIED IMAGINATION** - *Imagination can extends the scope of what we can experience by calling out what we see of heavenly things and even participating in them.*

Eph. 3:20 NIV *Now to him who is **able to do immeasurably more** than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us*

Colossians 3:1-2 TPT

*Christ's resurrection is your resurrection too. This is why we are to **yearn for all that is above**, for that's where Christ sits enthroned at the place of all power, honor, and authority! [2] Yes, **feast on all the treasures of the heavenly realm and fill your thoughts with heavenly realities, and not with the distractions***

of the natural realm.

- **PHYSICAL MOVEMENT** - *Raised hands, clapping, dance, laying on your face, kneeling. ALL physical expressions of worship EXPAND my experience of God in worship.*

Psa. 149:1 *Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, And His praise in the assembly of saints. 2 Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. 3 Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp. 4 For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.*

Psalm 149:6-9 TPT *God's high and holy praises fill their mouths, for their shouted praises are their weapons of war! [7] These warring weapons will bring vengeance on the nations and every resistant power— [8] to bind kings with chains and rulers with iron shackles. [9] Praise-filled warriors will enforce the judgment decreed against their enemies. This is the honor he gives to all his godly lovers. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!*

- **SPEAK IN TONGUES** - *Focused, intentional spirit language (not mindless, but coordinated and directed by heart burden) releases spiritual activity around me and in me.*
- **DECLARING WHAT I SEE** - *When we speak out what we see in worship it invites more of God to our present experience.*

RABBI ABRAHAM HESCHEL - "WORDS CREATE WORLDS"

CHRIS BLACKABEE - "Stepping into heaven with a square of carpet"

II. THE GOAL OF HEART PREPARATION IS for MORE OF GOD!

1. TO GROW IN OUR ABILITY TO ACCESS HIGHER LEVELS

Psa. 27:1 *The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?*

4 *One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.*

8 *When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."*

2. TO CULTIVATE OUR ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN MORE THAN ONE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION simultaneously!

PAUL IN PRISON - Where I am and Where I am in Him - WORSHIP

Acts 16:25 *But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.*

- MORE THAN A NATURAL EARTHQUAKE -

30 *And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"*

Acts 16:31 *So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.*

PAUL, ANGELS & SHIPWRECKED - SHIFT IN WHAT HE KNEW

Acts 27:9 *Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, 10 saying, "Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives." 11 Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul.*

Acts 27:21 *But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. 22 And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. 23 For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, 24 saying, "Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.' 25 Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me. 26 However, we must run aground on a certain island."*

3. TO REVIVE A DESIRE FOR SPIRITUAL PROMOTION

JUDAISM - AS MANY AS SEVEN HEAVENS - DIFFERENT LEVELS

DEUT. 10:14 *Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it.*

CHRISTIANS - GETTING TO THE THIRD HEAVEN

2Cor. 12:1 *It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—*

whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— 4 how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.*

****(FOR SOME THINGS, there is a personal price of admission. You can't access things not meant for your present heart condition- you won't understand them) 1ST - WEATHER, 2ND - WARFARE, 3RD - WORSHIP (GOD DWELLS)***

THE POWER OF WEAKNESS IS HUMILITY AND TRUST

2Cor. 12:7 And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. 8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, “My 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

4. TO ABIDE IN CONTINUAL SPIRITUAL COMMUNION WITH GOD

- **JESUS' NIGHTS OF PRAYER - WHERE DID HE GO?** Where did he go to see and hear what God was up to?

Matt. 14:23 And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.

BUT, WAS HE? JESUS GREW IN WISDOM AND STATURE BECAUSE OF HIS CONNECTION TO FATHER. IT'S AVAILABLE TO ALL OF US

- **WALKING WITH GOD -** Enoch, Elijah, Jesus
- **LIVING IN SPIRITUAL REALMS -** Jesus commanded storms, Interacted with angelic realm, Interacted with Heavenly Father

III. WORSHIPPING GOD ALONE - THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD. NO DEBATE *Don't get hung up on the "Right Way to worship" - Just prepare your heart*

John 4:21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”