

Week of March 9, 2008

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Monday

Luke 6:46 "And why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? "Everyone who comes to Me, and hears My words, and acts upon them, I will show you whom he is like..."

Why do you worship? Good question, but perhaps the more telling one is "why would you stop?" Ask yourself, "What would cause me to stop attending services of worship?" The answer, if we are honest, will say a great deal about our heart before God. If you would stop because no one notices your presence (or absence) or because someone disappoints you, then perhaps you are not present to worship God. Though we certainly receive much in worship, true worship is not "me" focused, but God focused.

Tuesday

1Sam. 15:22 And Samuel said, "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

Worship is not simply attendance at a service or 'going through the motions;' worship is about encountering God, giving Him honor and praise. Worship is about being encountered by God. Such worship requires attention *and intention*. God is not looking for people merely to attend a service, but for individuals who will enter into heartfelt worship. Take time to examine your worship practices. Ask God to show you how you may enter into more genuine worship.

Wednesday

Is. 58:3 Why have we fasted and Thou dost not see? Why have we humbled ourselves and Thou dost not notice?

Nothing you 'do' can take the place of worship. Missions does not replace worship, but must flow from it. Ministry cannot replace worship, as important as is God's call to service. God desires His children to worship, together and weekly. The scripture reveals there is worship in heaven, where the saints and angels gather before the throne. Now, hear the prayer, "thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Renew your commitment to worship: weekly, corporate, Christ focused, encountering worship.

Thursday

Is. 58:13-14 "If because of the sabbath, you turn your foot from doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable, And shall honor it, desisting from your own ways, From seeking your own pleasure, And speaking your own word, Then you will take delight in the LORD, And I will make you ride on the heights of the earth..

Wow! Try this on for size. The Lord still delights in His people's worship. Look at His promises for those who keep His day of worship, who make His priority their priority. Have you instilled this priority in your life? In your family's?

Friday

Psa. 29:1 Ascribe to the LORD, O sons of the mighty, Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in holy array.

The Lord calls us to worship. He calls us to gather together in His presence to give Him glory, honor, and praise. The Lord calls us to worship. He calls us to enter His house with dignity in attitude and dress. The Lord seeks our humility before His throne. In attitude and action we must show the seriousness of our commitment to Him. In deportment and dress we should show our sense of His holiness, fame, honor, and glory. How do you approach the Lord to worship?