

## Life-Sharing Lesson 1 What Is Worship? Exodus 20:1-7 Matthew 23:37-38

1. What would it take for you to voluntarily give your life for another person?

**Exodus 20:1-7** Today's New International Version (TNIV)

### The Ten Commandments

<sup>1</sup> And God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup> “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>3</sup> “You shall have no other gods before<sup>[a]</sup> me. <sup>4</sup> “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup> “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

2. Why would God begin this passage with the wording in verse two above?

3. What is the connection between worship and being grateful?

4. What are the gods that we have in our lives other than the true God and why do we create them?

5. What are the images that we are tempted to bow down to today (especially those that are not seen physically) ?

6. How do we know when we have crossed the line from admiring someone or something to actually worshipping him/her/it?

7. Some people think having the cross is an image we should not have. Is the cross the kind of image that God is speaking of here? Why or why not.

8. What do you think God means when He says we are not to worship other gods. What exactly is worship in this passage?

9. Can we fully participate in a Muslim service. Why or why not?

10. Why is God jealous when it comes to worship?

<sup>37</sup> **Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment.  
Matthew 23:37-38 TNIV**

11. What is the connection between love and worship?

12. What do you need to do to become a better worshipper of God?

## Life-Sharing Lesson 2 “What Is The Purpose Of Worship” Eccl. 5-17 Isaiah 27:13

1. How would you answer the question “why bother going to church, can’t I worship God at home?”

2. What’s the difference between “coming to church” and “coming to worship”?

### **Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 Today's New International Version (TNIV) Stand In Awe Of God**

**<sup>1</sup> <sup>[a]</sup> Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. <sup>[b]</sup><sup>2</sup> Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. <sup>3</sup> A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool.**

**<sup>4</sup> When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. <sup>5</sup> It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it. <sup>6</sup> Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest to the temple messenger, “My vow was a mistake.” Why should God be angry at what you say and destroy the work of your hands? <sup>7</sup> Much dreaming and many words are meaningless. Therefore fear God.**

3. What do you think we are being challenged to do in verse 1 when it says to guard your steps when you go the house of God?

4. How important is the condition of our heart when we are involved in worship?

5. What type of examination should we be doing before attempting to worship God?

6. What should we be listening for when we are in the midst of praise and worship songs during the service?

7. What are you visualizing in your worship of God during the singing portions of worship?

8. What does one do to be “guilty of offering the sacrifice of fools?”

### **Isaiah 29:13 TNIV**

**<sup>13</sup> The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.”<sup>[a]</sup> Isaiah 29:13**

9. How do we move beyond worship that is based on merely human rules?

10. How do we bring a sense of “awe of God” to our morning services?

11. The passage in Ecclesiastes warned us against making vows hastily. What are the kinds of vows we make in church, that we quickly leave behind once the service is over?

12. Why would people make a vow and then not fulfill it?

13. What vows do you make that you need to give closer attention to?

**Life-Sharing Lesson 3 “What Does Worship Do To Us” 2 Samuel 6:12-22. 1  
Timothy 2:8 Psalm 134:1-2**

1. What benefit do you get out of offering worship to God?
2. Worship involves some form of sacrifice. What do we sacrifice in order to worship God?

**2 Samuel 6:12-22 TNIV**

<sup>12</sup> Now King David was told, “The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God.” So David went to bring up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing. <sup>13</sup> When those who were carrying the ark of the LORD had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. <sup>14</sup> Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the LORD with all his might, <sup>15</sup> while he and the entire house of Israel were bringing up the ark of the LORD with shouts and the sound of trumpets.

<sup>16</sup> As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she despised him in her heart. <sup>17</sup> They brought the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the LORD. <sup>18</sup> After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD Almighty. <sup>19</sup> Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.

<sup>20</sup> When David returned home to bless his household, Michal daughter of Saul came out to meet him and said, “How the king of Israel has distinguished himself today, going around half-naked in full view of the slave girls of his servants as any vulgar fellow would!” <sup>21</sup> David said to Michal, “It was before the LORD, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the LORD’s people Israel—I will celebrate before the LORD. <sup>22</sup> I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor.”

3. What all was involved in the worship service bringing the ark to Jerusalem?

4. Is worship to be a quiet experience or a joyful noisy one? Why?

5. Why is David dancing and leaping before the Lord?

6. Why do some of us resist strong demonstrations of physical activity such as dancing, clapping, and leaping when it comes to worshipping the Lord?

**1 Timothy 2:8** Today's New International Version (TNIV)<sup>8</sup> **Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.**

**Psalm 134:1-2** A song of ascents. <sup>1</sup> **Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD.** <sup>2</sup> **Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD.**

7. Here are two biblical passages telling us to lift our hands during prayer and during worship. Why then do we often think only Pentecostals and Charismatics are to be the ones to lift up their hands during worship?

8. Why does Michal despise David in her heart when she saw him out the window?

9. How do we become guilty of despising others in our hearts in their form of worship?

10. What is the value of knowing how to worship the Lord in quietness?



11. What is at the core of genuine worship before the Lord?