**Worship: Living Like He’s Worth It**

Fredrick Lehman, born in 1868, was a hymn writer. One night, after he attended a service where the love of God was preached, his heart was full and mind was swirling. He couldn’t sleep so he went to his piano to compose a well known hymn, “The Love of God.” He had trouble with the last verse and remembered a poem that a friend of his gave him. This poem was written on the wall of a prison 200 years earlier. When the prisoner died and the walls about to be repainted, one of the painters copied the words down. After some research, it turned out that the words were originally written around 1,000 AD by Rabbi Meir Ben Issac Nehoria. These are those words:

“Could we with ink the ocean fill,

And were the skies of parchment made,

Were every stalk on earth a quill,

And every man a scribe by trade,

To write the love of God above,

Would drain the ocean dry.

Nor could the scroll contain the whole,

Though stretched from sky to sky.”

This is such a beautiful illustration of worship and praise. A rabbi’s words touched the heart of a prisoner 700 later, which moved a hymn writer 200 years after that.

It makes me wonder, what legacy of worship will my life leave? Will yours?

True worship makes an impact on the heart of God, in eternity, as well as in this life.

Last week we began discussing this topic and we discussed how it is much more than music, or words. Worship is the expression of your life unto God that is practiced both in private and for others to observe.

**John 4:24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

Worship In Spirit & Truth: Honor the Lord with our hearts, minds, and lives in the way that He prescribes in His word.

Worship: Humility, Faith, Obedience, and Sacrifice.

Worship is intentionally living a life that honors God.

**Romans 12:1-2** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.

The purpose of our lives is to know Him and to make Him known. It is to be lovers and worshipers of God.

**Acts 17:28** in Him we live and move and have our being

**Proverbs 25:2** It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

**Colossians 3:3** Your life is hidden with Christ in God.

We were to worship the God of the Bible as He reveals Himself. We are to worship in the way that He prescribes in His word.

**How to know the will of God for your life:**

1. Offer your bodies as living sacrifices

2. Reject worldliness

**1. Offer your bodies as living sacrifices**

**1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**Philippians 3:18-19** For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

I use my time, talents, and resources to serve Him and to be pleasing to Him. ***Music***

**2. Reject worldliness**

**James 4:4** Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?

**Matthew 16:24** Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me.

Watching movies, playing video games, or listening to music with sexual content, profanity, violence, magic, and demonic & occultic themes, plants seeds of worldliness, darkness, and corruption. What you plant in your heart through your gates will reproduce in your life.

**James 1:27** Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

God redeemed us from our sin to make us Holy. He’s not the happy or homeboy spirit but the Holy Spirit of God.

Holiness has been misrepresented but we must not throw the baby out with the bath water. Holiness meant to be pure, without contamination, to be separate and set apart from the uncleanness of the world and its corruption.

**2 Corinthians 6:16-18** what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” Therefore “Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

**Psalm 24:3-4** Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, who have not lifted up their soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully.

**Isaiah 66:1-2** “Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist,” says the Lord. “But on this one will I look: on those who are poor (humble) and of a contrite spirit, and who tremble at My word.

There are many that worship in spirit – they are very spiritual. They look to the earth for power, or cards for answers, they look to the human spirit or the universe for guidance. They have a form of spirituality, but they are not worshipping God in truth. What truth? The truth – God’s word.

**John 17:17** Make those who trust in You holy by Your truth. Your word is truth.

The concepts of worship and righteousness are deeply intertwined. To worship God fully in a way that He desires means that we are walking in righteousness.

To be righteous is to be in right standing with God.

If you and your wife are in a fight, you can expect a lack of intimacy.

It is unreasonable to expect romance when you’re sleeping on the couch.

Another helpful definition of righteousness is performing the purpose for which something was designed. – Brick in the wall vs. brick on the floor.

What is worship? It’s not just obeying God, and sacrificing that which is dear, but to offer the sacrifice of praise in the way He made you. It is worship to discover and then walk in your purpose.

**Proverbs 25:1** It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

We were all made to love God, and love others. As you grow in knowing Him, the more of you you discover. ***Bathroom light revelation.*** It’s not just about music or money, but in every expression of humanity as God created it.

Adina heaven – art, singing, painting, dancing, spoken word, writing, etc.

***Book in lobby or online.***

God is creative. He has created us to be creative as well. When our personality is purified and our creativity resonates with the Holy Spirit, we engage in worship that is truly pleasing to the Lord.

What does it mean to worship God in spirit and in truth?

Humility, faith, obedience and sacrifice in every aspect of our lives.

It means giving Him praise because He is worthy.

It means loving God with all of our hearts, minds, souls, and strength.

It means we honor Him with our time, talents, and resources.

It means we serve Him with holy fear.

It means we develop spiritual disciplines so we can know Him more & become more like Him.

It means we sing and dance, create, meditate on His word, write, play, and work - that we live every aspect of our lives unto God and for His glory.

**Conclusion:**

Repent of our sin, worldliness, and idolatry

Ask the Holy Spirit to make us holy

Help us to discover You, and what You created us for. Help us to worship You in Spirit and in truth, that our lives, our thought, our motivations, and our worship would be pleasing to You.