“Worship, is A Way To Be”, Worship from A to Z, Part 4 of 4 – August 5, 2012 at SBC

John 8:29-30, Ephesians 5:1-2 & 2 Corinthians 5:15

Welcome to the caboose, . . . of the worship series. We’ve kind of blown up, the stereotype, of what worship, really is. It’s not just, a certain behavior, or a certain melody, or singing, . . . or, even being here, . . . at church.

As we look at today’s words, we start to form, some conclusions, such as: That worship, is not, a Sunday thing. It’s a Monday, . . . through, Sunday thing. Worship is not, a compartment, of my life. It *is,* . . . my life. Worship is not a spiritual high, . . . or, a feeling. It’s a way, . . . of life!

Worship is not, . . . a way to act. Worship is, . . . a way to be. We see this, in the life, . . of Jesus. His worship, was His way, . . . to be. John 8:29-30 – *“’The One, who sent Me, stays with Me. He doesn’t, abandon Me. He sees, how much joy, I take, in pleasing Him.’ When He put it, in these terms, many people decided, to believe.”*

Worship, is not a way to act, but, worship, for Jesus, . . was a way to be. So, you see, that it’s not situational, . . it’s relational. Look at the impact, in the passage, . . . *when He put it, in these terms*.

What happened? *Many people, . . . decided, to believe*. As He lived, His life of worship, pleasing God, it gave incentive to people, who were watching Him, live His life. It gave them insight, into what it means, . . to know God. It caused them, to respond to the invitation, to live a similar life, . . . of love and relationship, with God.

What is, our motivation, to live a life, of worship? Worship, is a way to be. If you want to share the message, if you want to be a messenger, . . living a life of worship, is one of the strongest ways. We learn that, from Jesus.

Jesus’ life, means something, to us, . . . as His followers. Ephesians 5:1-2 – *“You are God’s children, whom He loves, so try, to be like Him. Live a life of love, just as Christ loved us, and gave Himself for us, as the sweet smelling offering, and sacrifice to God.”*

Two things, two implications, of Jesus’ life, as a worshipper, a God pleaser, . . . and, our life, as His followers. The first, is simple. We try to, . . . be like Him. That’s the pursuit, of the Christian. We try to, be like Jesus. The second implication, . . . is that, we offer our lives, . . . as a sweet smelling offering.

In the Bible, when you offer a sweet smelling offering, . . . you are worshipping. As I look at that passage, I ask myself, . . . How am I smelling, . . in God’s nostrils? Our lives, have that kind of impact, that God gets a whiff of us, . . . and, it brings Him pleasure, . . . or, it might bring Him a little bit of pain, . . . because, . . He loves us. We’re His kids,iH so He wants us, . . . to be a sweet smelling offering.

So, Jesus was a God pleaser, . . . and, we’re to be like Jesus, to offer our whole lives, to Him, as a sacrifice of worship, . . . versus, just pieces of our lives. In the passage, it says, “He gave, himself.” Not pieces, of Himself.

As we go through, S through Z, . . . think of your whole life, . . . and, what you’re going to offer.

**\* S – The S stands for, . . . Sacrifice my plans, . . . for His.** We see this demonstrated, . . in the life, of Christ. Matt. 26:39 – *“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet, not as I will, but as You will.”* Jesus’ life as a worshipper, . . . taking joy, in pleasing God, . . . then, abandoning His plans, . . . for God’s plans.

This prayer, is in the Garden of Gethsemane, right before, He’s going to go, to the cross. Being made in human form, . . . but, still being God, He’s got this tension going on, and He’s saying, “Is there, any other way? But, if there’s not, any other way, . . . I don’t want, My comfort. I want, . . . Your plans.”

Think about, your own life. There are many of you, when you’re at a crossroads you say, there’s your will, and your plan, and your way. Then, there’s God’s will, and God’s plan, and God’s way. Whose plan, . . . will prevail? The worshipper, says not my will, . . . but, Your will, . . . be done.

When a worshipper, doesn’t sacrifice, their plans, for God’s plans, . . . what’s on the other end of that, is people suffer. If Jesus didn’t sacrifice, . . . His plans, for comfort, for God’s plan, and the cross, . . . none of us, not one of us, . . . would be forgiven, and going to heaven.

But, to be a worshipper, . . . and, to be a sacrifice, of your plans, . . . you have to give up, . . the things you want.

*“Then, Jesus called the crowd to Him, along with His followers. He said, ‘If people want to follow Me, they must give up, the things they want. They must be willing, to even give up their lives, to follow Me.’”*

You know, what a worshipper of God, asks? What do, . . . You want, Lord? What do, You want, from me, . . . in this situation? To change, from “What do I want?”, . . . to “What do You want?”, . . is an act of faith. And, faith, pleases God. And, pleasing God, . . . is worship.

That takes, . . . an attitude adjustment. Psalm 51:16-17 – *“Going through the motions, doesn’t please You. A flawless performance, is nothing to You. I learned God-worship, when my pride, was shattered. Heart- shattered lives, ready for love, don’t for a moment, escape God’s notice.”*

Notice, that it says worship, . . is not a performance. It’s an, attitude adjustment. We begin to get to that place, where we can sacrifice our plans, for God’s plans, . . . when we quit using the language of pride, which is “I know better,” . . . for the language of worship, which is, . . . “You know better.”

When I think about us, as followers of Christ, and worshippers of Christ, . . . sometimes, the language of pride, invades our heart, . . . and, we think that, we know better than God. And, we have the audacity, to say to God, . . . “God, I hear what You’re saying, . . . but, I’m going to do it, this way.”

Worshipping, is not saying, . . . “I know better,” . . . it’s saying, “You know better.” When you say, “You know better,” . . . that’s, an expression of faith. The Bible says, *“Without faith, it’s impossible, to please God.”* And, pleasing God, . . . is worship.

Acts 13:22, is a wonderful passage, about David, . . . a guy, who loved God. It says *“He testified, concerning him, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, man after My own heart. He will do everything, I want him to do.’”* When it came to David, he would say, “What do You, want me to do?”, . . . versus, . . . “This is what, I want to do.” That’s, how we worship. So the S, in Worship from A to Z, is Sacrificing my plans.

**\* T is, . . . Trust God’s opinions, over man’s.** Let’s see, how Jesus, lived out this truth, in front of His critics. Mark 12:14 – *“Teacher, we know You are a man of integrity. You aren’t swayed by men, because You pay no attention, to who they are, but You teach the way of God, in accordance with the truth.”* See how Jesus’ identity, as a God pleaser, gives Him spiritual integrity, . . . under the pressure, of critics.

What does, integrity mean? It means, you’re undivided between, what you believe, . . . and, how you live, and think, in front of people. Jesus had, two choices. He wasn’t, “swayed by men.” He could have been, swayed by men, enslaved to people, and caved under the pressure, of His critics. Or, swayed by the way of God.

Jesus lived, for an audience, . . of One. Not for, an audience, of many. When He was living, for an audience of One, . . . that meant, He was free, to ­­break bread, . . with sinners. He was free, not to be intimidated, by authority figures, . . . of men, who were trying, to put pressure on Him. He was free, to go against the culture, . . . when God’s Word, or compassion, demanded it. That’s, what made Him, . . . a God pleaser.

This same Jesus, if you’re a follower, . . . lives in you. So, doesn’t it make sense, that He would want you, . . . to live the same life, . . . not paying attention to men’s opinions, . . . but, being more concerned, about God’s opinions? So, that you could be free, to be loyal, . . . to Christ, under pressure.

You could be free, to be a brother, or a sister, to a person in need. Free, to become a servant. Free, to become God’s messenger, . . . and, to be used by Him. That’s what living for an audience of One, . . . does for us, as worshippers, of Christ. It, frees us. We don’t have, to play to people. We can live, for an audience, . . . of One.

Those were, Jesus’ critics. What about, Jesus’ fans? There were a lot of people, who really liked Jesus. Look at this situation. John 2:23-25 – *““During the time, when He was in Jerusalem, those days of the Passover Feast, many people noticed the signs, He was displaying, and seeing, they pointed straight to God, entrusted their lives, to Him. But, Jesus didn’t entrust His life, to them. He knew them, inside and out. He knew how untrustworthy, they were. He didn’t need any help, . . . in seeing right through them*.” Jesus didn’t cave, under the pressure, of His critics. Nor, did He trust, the press and publicity, and adulation, from His fans.

The reason, why we trust God’s opinion, first – two reasons – knowledge and character. Isn’t that true, in your own life? If you trust somebody, to help you, to get it done, or to take care of you, . . . you want to know that, they know what they’re doing. Then secondly, . . . you want to make sure, that their character is trustworthy, that they have integrity, in what they do, and that they’re not going to rip you off, . . . or, take advantage of you.

So, we know that God, is omniscient. That’s what, the Bible teaches. He knows, everything. And, He’s holy. That means, His character is pure, and perfect, and He’s loving. He has, our best interest, in mind. So, when you know everything, and you’re all powerful, and you’re loving, and you have our best interest in mind, . . . you don’t trust man’s opinion, . . . you trust God’s opinion. That is why, ­­we don’t become, people please-ers.

Paul talks about, being a people please-er. Galatians 1:10 – *“Obviously, I’m not trying to be, a people pleaser! No, I am trying, . . . to please God. If I were still trying, to please people, . . . I would not be, Christ’s servant.”*

You see, the comparison. You can be a people pleaser, . . . or, you can be a God pleaser. But, . . . there’s no such thing, as a blend. Either, you’re pleasing God, in your choices, and your character, and conduct, . . . or, you’re pleasing people. You can’t blend, the values of culture, . . . with values of Christ.

**\* U – Understand, my place.** When the Bible, talks about Jesus, . . . you think, it only talks about Him, as God, and a miracle worker. But, there’s, this other picture of Jesus, . . . presented in Philippians 2, . . . that, shows us how He understood, His place as the God-man, . . . so that, He could model for us, . . . what it means, to be a worshipper.

Philippians 2:6-7 – *“In your lives, you must think, and act, like Christ Jesus. Christ Himself, was like God, in everything. But, He did not think, that being equal with God, was something to be used, for His own benefit.* ***But, He gave up, His place, with God,******and, made Himself, nothing.*** *He was born, to be a man, and became like a servant. And, when He was living, as a man, He humbled Himself, and was fully obedient to God.”*

Why on earth, does God, take a lower position, to serve, . . and, be obedient, all the way, to the cross? For you, and, for me. But, God could have written in the sky, “Jesus is My Son, believe in Him. Turn from, your sins.” But, Jesus instead, . . . modeled for us, . . . what it means, . . . to be, a worshipper.

In God’s economy, the higher position, . . . is the lower position. That’s why, Jesus said, *“The last, shall be first, and the first, will be last.”* And, *“He who humbles himself, will be exalted, and he who exalts himself, will be humbled.”*  That’s the teaching, of the Bible.

When you don’t understand, your place with God, . . . you take, His place. And, you become god, . . . and, you become, your own master. And, you become the boss, . . . of your own life. That’s, when we get, . . in trouble, when we try to be God, . . . in our own life. It’s harder, to be obedient, when you don’t understand, your place.

When you understand, . . . your place, . . . you become, a worshipper. *“This then is how, you should pray. Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.”* He’s in heaven, He’s holy. The prayer is not, that God be made holy, . . . but, that He be regarded, . . . as holy, and He rules. Your, kingdom come. Your will, be done.

Jesus says, “Let’s get this straight. This is how, you should pray. This is how, you should, approach God. He’s there. And, this is, who He is. He’s holy, and He rules.” There is a God, . . . and, I’m not Him.

**\* V – Value knowing God, above all.** Jesus huddling with His disciples, before He left earth, gave them the prize pearl, of their time together, in John 14-17. “I’m leaving. The Holy Spirit, is coming. You bear fruit.” He prays for His disciples, and prays for us. In this, His final earthly prayer, what’s most important, to Him.

John 17:3 – *“And, this is the real, and eternal life: That they know You, the one and only, true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You sent.”* What’s most important to Jesus, as He’s leaving, for His disciples, and for us? That they, . . . **know God**. That word “know”, is a special word. The Greek word, . . . means intimacy, and knowledge, and vulnerability, and transparency, and relationship. Deep, deep, . . . intimate relationship.

If I were to ask myself, How do I know, if I’m ­­valuing, knowing God, above all? When we’re in relationship with somebody, and it’s having an influence on us, . . that relationship, influences us, . . . and, it leeks out of us.

In our words, in our actions, in how we, . . . do our lives.

The Bible says, there’s actually a proper way, of bragging. Jeremiah 9:23-24 – *“The wise must not, brag about their wisdom, the strong must not, brag about their strength, the rich must not, brag about their money. But, if someone wants to brag, let him brag, that he understands, and knows Me. Let him brag, that I am the Lord, and that I am kind and fair, and I do things, that are right on earth. This kind of bragging, . . . pleases Me.”*

Worshippers, God pleasers, . . leak, on other people. Why? Because, they value, knowing God, above all, and, He comes out of their lives, . . . in what they say, . . . and, in what they do, . . because, they value knowing Him.

So, how do we get there? How do we, value God, . . . above all? Philippians 3:7-8. The apostle Paul says this, *“All the things, I once thought were important, are gone from my life, compared to the high privilege, . . . of knowing Christ Jesus, as my Master, first hand. Everything, I once thought I had going for me, is insignificant. I’ve dumped it all in the trash, so that I could embrace Christ, and be embraced by Him.”*

How do I know, . . . I’m valuing God, above all? It’s when I consider, . . . knowing Him, . . . a high privilege.

How do I know, that a person, considers knowing God, a high privilege? **Time**. How much time, . . . do you spend, with God? Do you have, a time with Him? Is God’s Word, and what He says, really important, to you?

In the Old Testament, when Moses was under pressure, leading all these people, out of Egypt, God said this to him, *“You must establish, the tent of meeting, and there I will meet with you, and there, I will speak with you.”* It was a place, where God wanted to talk to Moses, . . . so that, he’d get to know Him.

My question to you, is where is your, tent of meeting, . . . in your life? Is it the brown chair, in the living room? Is it your car, before work? Is it at Starbuck’s, with a cup of coffee? Where is it? God is waiting, to meet with you, and speak with you, and that is **a high privilege**, and the worshipper, values that, . . above, all other things.

**\* The W is, . . . Willing, to risk.** Jesus is talking about risk, in Mark 8:35 – *“For whoever wants to save his life, will lose it. But, whoever loses his life, for Me, and for the sake of the gospel, will find it.”* What Jesus is saying, to His followers: You can be conservative, or you can be aggressive, . . . in your lifestyle, of worship.

If you talk to, a financial planner. They give you two options, if you want to retire, . . with a little bit of money. It is always, based on time. If you have limited time, . . . then you have to invest your money, aggressively, . . . because you’re older. If you’re younger, you can be more conservative, and have a more conservative, investment strategy. You know what, Jesus is saying, here? There’s only one, spiritual investment option, for the worshipper of Christ. It’s aggressive, . . . investment.

What are you, afraid of? What area of your life, . . . are you unwilling, . . . to risk, for God. You know what you’re willing to do, . . . but, you’re afraid, to do it? The presence, and the power, and the person, of your heavenly Father, . . . is with you. He’s bigger, . . . than, your fear. And, everything is going to be, ok.

Hebrews 10:37-39 – *“But, My righteous one, will live by faith, and if He shrinks back, I will not be pleased with Him, but we are not of those, who shrink back, and are destroyed, but those who believe, and are saved.”* God’s woman, and God’s man, . . . are known, not only as worshippers, . . . but, known, . . . as risk takers.

Worshippers of God, are pleasers of God, and riskers of God. The safe Christian life, is an oxymoron. When you know, . . . who your Father is, we take risks, because we know who He is. He’s bigger, . . . than, our fear.

**\* The X is, . . . X-ray, my motives.** You know what, an X ray machine, does. CAT scan. MRI. It looks, underneath. It looks under your skin, into your body, . . to see what’s really going on, and to see things, that might be harmful to you, so you can deal with them. You know that, God has his spiritual eyes, trained on you, to see if your worship, is the real deal, . . . or, if there’s something cancerous, . . . or, polluting, to your worship.

John 4:23-24 – *“The time is coming, when the true worshippers, will worship the Father, in spirit and truth. That time, is already here. You see, the Father is actively seeking, such people, to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him, must worship, in Spirit and truth.”* Jesus says, be careful, . . . of going through the motions, . . . with the wrong motives.

Matthew 15:8-9 – *“These people honor Me, with their lips, but their hearts, are far from Me. They worship Me, in vain.”* So, you see the disconnect, between the motions, . . . and, the motivations. If I’m a worshipper, I have to run, a systems check. I have to go, “God, how do I make sure, that I’m worshipping You, in spirit and in truth, where the words of my lips, match the motivations, of my heart?”

In Psalm 139:23-24, David, God’s man, runs a little systems check. *“Search me, O God, and know my heart. Test me, and know my, anxious thoughts. See if there, is any offensive way, in me.”* David is just asking, “God, I’m giving You, the freedom, to x-ray my heart.” The way, that works, you say, “God, why am I doing this? Is this for me, . . . or, is this for You?” (Am I singing, for me, or, for your glory? Am I serving, . . praying, etc.)

**\* Y is, . . . Yield timing, . . . and results, to God.** Desperation leads us to God, and in our desperate situation, . . . we want relief. But, you see in the gospels, that Jesus, many times­, ­instead of providing the quick fix­,­ and the instant relief, He required belief, . . . before relief.

John 4:49-53 – *“Jesus asked, ‘Must I do miraculous signs and wonders, before you people, will believe in Me?’ The official pleaded, ‘Lord, please come now, before my little boy dies.’ Then, Jesus told him, ‘Go back home. Your son, will live.’ The man believed Jesus’ words, and started home. On his way, some of his servants met him, with the news, that his son, was alive and well. He asked them, when the boy, had begun, to feel better. They replied ‘Yesterday afternoon, at one o’clock, his fever, suddenly disappeared.’* *Then, the father realized, it was the same time, Jesus told him, your son will live.*  *The officer, and his entire household, believed in Jesus.”*

When, did the official, want it? Now. When, do we want it? Now! But, Jesus always brings us, to this point of belief, . . before, the relief. We have to yield, the timing, and the results, to God. There may be many of you, that are in desperate situations – relationally, maritally, in your family, financially, professionally, emotionally.

You know, what we need to do. Believe. Do your part, . . . just, like this man, in the story. He started to walk, in the right direction – home. It’s sort of like the story, of the loaves, and the fish. The little boy, gives Jesus, a few loaves and fish, and God multiplies it. Do what only you can do, so that God can do, what only He can do. It’s going to require, that you believe, . . . before, there’s relief.

If God wants something to happen, in your life, . . . nothing, can stop it. So, if it’s not happening now, then relax. Because, if He wants it to happen now, it’ll happen now. If He wants it to happen, in a few days, it’ll happen in a few days. If He wants it to happen in couple of years, it’ll happen in couple of years. Maybe, He doesn’t want it to happen, . . . He has a whole other plan. We just need, . . . to relax. God can do, whatever He wants. We can rest, . . . in His sovereign power.

**\* The Z is, . . . Zealous, for your savior.** There’s connection, . . . between appreciation, and activation. When you appreciate somebody, . . . aren’t you, more motivated, . . . to be active, . . . on their behalf. We’re talking about, energy, passion, zeal. So, the Z is for zealous, . . . for your savior. That’s the context, of the worshipper. We have zeal, . . . because, we have a savior.

Jesus had a lot of zeal, in His life, and it didn’t look like, the type of zeal, that one might imagine. John 2:16-17 – *“Then, going over to the people, who sold doves He told them, ‘Get these things, out of here. Don’t turn My Father’s house, into a marketplace.’ Then, His disciples remembered this prophecy, in the scriptures, ‘Passion for God’s house, . . . burned within me.’”*

See, the whole passion thing. This whole, energy for God, thing. This whole, being sold out, as a worshipper. He lives, in you. Passion for God’s house, . . . burned in Jesus. He walked into His father’s house, a house of prayer. He saw, that they were turning it, into a flea market, and e sid, “That’s it! get this stuff iout of here! his loiyalty leeks out. his passionfor God leeks oiut.He said - That’s it! Get this stuff, out of here! His loyalty, leeks out. His passion for God, . . . leeks out.

He lives in us, . . . if you’re a follower. There has to be moments, because He’s calling us out, where we say that’s it. I’m being loyal, to God. Our passion, that burns inside of us, comes out. The disciples stepped back, and went, “Whoa! Look, at Him! Passion for God’s house, . . . burns inside.”

Romans 12:11-13 – *“Never be lacking, in zeal. But, keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people, who are in need, practice hospitality.”* !

The form and shape, of how you bring zeal, is not what I would consider, . . . not what I would think, typically, of zeal. Be joyful, . . . in hope. Be patient, when you’re in a trial, when you’re in a difficulty. Be faithful, in talking it through, with God. While you’re talking it through, with God, keep sharing. Keep sharing, what you have, and practice hospitality. That’s, what this series, is all about. Worship, . . . is the way to be.

We want to worship, as the way to be. But, how do I move, from intellectual and mental exercise, to a practical and, experiential encounter with Christ, . . . as the flow of life, living every area of my life, as a God pleaser.

(READ: “The Shack”)

2 Corinthians 5:15 – *“And, He died for all, that those who live, should not live for themselves, but for Him, who died, and rose again, on their behalf.”* There are certain events, that are intended, . . . to change the course, of the way you live. For the worshipper, the one event, which changes everything, about your life, is the ­­cross, of Jesus Christ. His sacrifice, on that cross, the spilling of His blood, for you, is passion for youHis passion for you, . . . which is intended, to be matched, . . . with equal passion.

Jesus imself sid this is the one thingHimself, said this is the one thing, that I know, that I’m going to do, to motivate you, to do the things, that only you can do. John 15:13 – *“Greater love, has no one than this, that he lay down his life, for his friends.”*

Jesus’ sacrifice, . . . for you. Are you honoring it, today? With your life, by recognizing, that He died for you, responding with your life, . . . and, releasing yourself, to His purposes, and becoming a worshipper, . . . A to Z.

**WORSHIP IS A WAY TO BE,** Worship from A to Z, Part 4 of 4

John 8:29-30 – *“‘The One who sent Me stays with Me. He doesn’t abandon Me. He sees how much joy I take in pleasing Him.**’ When He put it in these terms, many people decided to believe.”*

**SACRIFICE**

Matt. 26:39 – *“‘My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.’”*

Psalm 51:16-17 – *“Going through the motions doesn’t please you, a flawless performance is nothing to you. I learned God-worship when my pride was shattered. Heart-shattered lives ready for love don’t for a moment escape God’s notice.”*

**TRUST**

Mark 12:14 – *“‘Teacher we know You are a man of integrity. You aren’t swayed by men, because You pay no attention to who they are; but You teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.’”*

John 2:23-25 – *“During the time He was in Jerusalem, those days of the Passover Feast, many people noticed the signs He was displaying and, seeing they pointed straight to God, entrusted their lives to Him. But Jesus didn’t entrust His life to them. He knew them inside and out, knew how untrustworthy they were.* *He didn’t need any help in seeing right through them*.”

Galatians 1:10 – *“Obviously, I’m not trying to be a people pleaser! No, I am trying to please God. If I were still trying to please people, I would not be Christ’s servant.”*

**UNDERSTAND**

Philippians 2:6-7 – *“In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus. Christ Himself was like God in everything. But He did not think that being equal with God was something to be used for His own benefit.* *But He gave up his place with God and made Himself nothing. He was born to be a man and became like a servant.* *And when He was living as a man, He humbled Himself and was fully obedient to God.”*

**VALUE**

John 17:3 – *“And this is the real and eternal life: That they know you, the one and only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent.”*

Phil. 3:8-9 – *“Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant-dog dung. I’ve dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by Him.”*

**WILLING**

Mark 8:35 – *“‘For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the sake of the Gospel will find it.’”*

Hebrews 10:37-39 – *“‘But My righteous one will live by faith. And if He shrinks back I will not be pleased with Him.’ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed but those who believe and are saved.”*

**X-RAY**

John 4:23-24 – *“‘The time is coming when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, and that time is here already. You see, the Father too is actively seeking such people to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.’”*

Matthew 15:8-9 – *“‘These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. They worship Me in vain.’”*

Psalm 139:23-24 – *“Search me, O God, and know my heart, test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me.”*

**YIELD**

John 4:49-53 – *“Jesus asked, ‘Must I do miraculous signs and wonders before you people will believe in Me?**’ The official pleaded, ‘Lord, please come now before my little boy dies.’* *Then Jesus told him, ‘Go back home. Your son will live!’ And the man believed Jesus’ word and started home. While he was on his way, some of his servants met him with the news that his son was alive and well.* *He asked them when the boy had begun to feel better, and they replied, ‘Yesterday afternoon at one o’clock his fever suddenly disappeared!’**Then the father realized it was the same time that Jesus had told him, ‘Your son will live.’ And the officer and his entire household believed in Jesus.”*

**ZEALOUS**

John 2:16-17 – *“Then, going over to the people who sold doves, He told them, ‘Get these things out of here. Don’t turn My Father’s house into a marketplace!**’ Then His disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: ‘Passion for God’s house burns within Me.’”*

Romans 12:11-13 – *“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”*

**WHAT’S YOUR MOTIVATION TO LIVE A LIFE OF WORSHIP?**

2 Corinthians 5:15 – *“And He died for all that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.”*

John 15:13 – *im.””* is sovereign power Hi

*“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”*