

# Worship – a Culture and Lifestyle

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Opening thought – Steve Gray: prophetic picture ... royalty ascribed and royalty inherited  
“Revelation comes to expose a truth that gives us legal access to a greater level of anointing that makes that truth a part of our daily lifestyle.”

Goals:

1. Expand our concept of what it means to worship God – get outside Metro’s four walls
2. Give practical examples of how we can worship at the next level
3. Stir the waters for more of His Presence

## **Worship is recognizing God and inviting Him to walk with us.**

Adam walked with God in the cool of the day. Enoch walked with God, then was no more. (Gen. 5:24)  
We come and bow before the King. And then, there are times when the King stands up from His throne to come and be with his people.

Do we worship on Sunday mornings within the four walls of Metro Life Church? Yes!  
Do we worship when we sing and declare the high praises of the King? Yes!!!  
Psalm 24 – “The earth is the Lord and everything in it. The world and all who live in it, for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? .... He who has ... Lift up your heads you gates. Be lifted up you ancient doors that the King of glory may come in ... The Lord Almighty, he is the King of glory.”

Question

How do we worship God outside the four walls at Metro? Daily, at home, at work...

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If you knew that the way you worshipped next Sunday in church would be the full measure of your worship in heaven, what might you do differently? (I realize life is a marathon for the most part, but we do sprint on occasion.☺)

Voice: singing, grunting ... in unison (“300” example – “ah-oo!!!”)

Arms: raised, waving, hands clapping, arms and hands “dancing”

Legs: dancing, bowing on our knees/forehead to the ground

Instruments: sound the **shofar**, beat the drum ... or your sword on your shield

God has blessed us with five senses: seeing, hearing, feeling, tasting, and **smelling**

Seeing: Northland with color on walls in front and sides, the colors of nature

Hearing: Taking time to listen to the wind in the trees, to music, to the birds, Elijah in the cave

Feeling: Textures of his Presence, a smooth shell, a calloused hand grip, soft skin

Tasting: That first bite of steak after a fast, cool water in a Florida summer

Smelling: Orange and magnolia blossoms, the salt water, rain on the pavement

When we walk out the doors at noon, do we stop worshipping? Do our five senses suddenly go dormant? Of course not. So how can we continue to worship, to walk with the King, to recognize his handiwork and acknowledge him in our steps? We have physical taste buds and spiritual taste buds. We were designed to hunger and thirst after righteousness ... and be filled! (Matt. 5: 3-12, the Beatitudes)

What are examples of how can we worship with God daily, in our lives? **(Shout out an answer)**

Be astounded, then in turn, be astounding...

Examples in nature, Exercise and diet, Work with excellence, Sports, Recreation

Question

If no one were watching, how would you worship *extravagantly*?

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How can we take a culture of worship to work as an essential daily tool rather than an infrequent visitor?

Who was the best known worshipper in the Bible? Why?

Acts 13:22 - "I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart: he will do everything I want him to do." - God Of note, this is quoted in Acts but there is no reference. (Interesting)  
Shepherd - cared for lambs; defeated lions, and tigers and bears (O my!)

Played a harp - musician

Was a skilled warrior - killed a really big dude with a sling and a stone. Truly, a Holy Roller!

Danced with all his might - was he uncoordinated or did he have some thump?

Ordained worship in the tabernacle - passed the torch and set up the next generation for success: Asaph and crew, Zadok priesthood (1 Chronicles 12: 1, 28)

Went and sat before the Lord (2 Sam. 7:18)

Acts 15: 16-17, referencing Amos 9:11 - God will build again the "Tabernacle of David," (NKJV), "David's fallen tent," (NIV), or "the booth of David." (ESV)

### **Worship in nature**

Palm trees - lay a palm frond down on the platform

State tree of Florida

Jericho, city of palms - first city to be conquered miraculously

Rahab came from Jericho ... married Salmon (tribe of Judah)

Salmon/Rahab → Boaz/Ruth → Obed → Jesse → David → → → Jesus!!!

During Jesus' triumphal entry, palm branches used in worship

Matt. 21:8, Mark 11:8, John 12: 13

Birds - color and variety

Eagles often seen, even on the way to church

Caracara - had to: 1. Know what it was; 2. Recognize it - sharp eyes

Sand hill cranes, wood storks, great blue herons/great white herons

Animal Kingdom - aviaries: color and sound of wings all around you.

Trees/flowers/fruit

Tabebuia trees: yellow and lilac

Orange trees and blossoms – the perfume is delightful

Bird of paradise

Bromeliads – Kai Jelstrom, Serena Gui

Three things in the arc of the covenant: the stone tablets, the golden bowl of manna, and Aaron's staff that had budded → almonds, BTW

Fish – color, variety ... and taste

The Atlanta Aquarium viewing room

Shells – yeah, you knew that was coming

But let's simply look at the animals in the shells, not just the shells

Rocket launch ... at night...Indian River Lagoon...while fishing for and catching redfish

Purple meteor at night while camping – I got no explanation

### **Worship with our bodies**

Romans 12: 1-2

1 Corinthians 6: 19-20

What you're born with – that's God's gift to you.

What you do with it – that's your gift to God ... your worship

Do you exercise regularly? Count it as worship rather than simply a healthy duty!

Do you eat healthy, and deny yourself those succulent morsels of cholesterol-laden deliciousness?

That's not just worship – that is High Worship!

Do we think that we'll suddenly be cleaved of all the "excess" that we carry when we get to heaven?

Why do we think that? Are we leaning too heavily on God for sloppy agape and greasy grace?

As a physician, I'm godly fearful of not presenting my body as an example for others to follow.

What about you?

Paul says, "I beat my body and make it my slave..." 1 Cor. 9: 27

Olympics – Usain Bolt winning the 100 meter sprint by a landslide

### **Worship at work**

Bezalel and Oholiab – anointed by God to build the Tabernacle. (Exodus 31:2, 35:30, 36:1)

"So Bezalel, Oholiab, and every skilled person to whom the Lord has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the Lord has commanded."

Col. 3:17 – "Whatever you do..." be awesome.

2 Tim. 2:15 – "Study to show yourself approved..." be awesome

Acts 16: 14 – Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth, may have helped found and support the church in Philippi

Be excellent, be a light → then expect God to use you and don't be shy when he does.

"Being humble doesn't mean you think less of yourself; it means you think of yourself less."

Kris Valloton

God will meet you in the midst of your work, your holy, ordained work.

I was writing a short book 10 years ago on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the midst of typing, God unfolded an example of the Holy Spirit's empowerment that shook me. Brief version: Babies are born with most of their nerves intact. The nerve axon, the long root that connects the brain to the muscle/sense, must be wrapped in a special fat cell in order to properly function. As these nerves are enveloped, they begin to function.

Isaiah 10: 27 – “the anointing breaks the yoke...” “The yoke will be broken because you have grown so fat.” The word for anointing and fat are the same.

Does an unanointed nerve work – Yes, but slowly and immaturely, like a baby. As we are enveloped with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we mature and grow up into the Body of Christ. He wants a fully functional Body.

### **Worship with family, the church, God's people**

We're building a prophetic culture here at Metro – this is more than simply a gift of the Spirit. It is a calling out of someone's eternal destiny ... here...now. Come, Thy Kingdom! Be done, Thy Will! People are coming alive all around us. Recognizing this, and the hand of the King, is worship! It's the Seal of the Holy Spirit not just on a person, but on a body!

Family:

Jonathan and I sprint for a ball on the soccer field → he beats me to the ball! Go Boy!

Joy → scoring those two soccer goals; Jonathan scoring that goal at Metro

Jonathan catching more snapper than me - Summer 2017

Shark circling family while snorkeling ~ 2000

Julia spiking the soccer ball while playing goalie

Certain people – their voice and nearness to God creates an environment of worship – He's near  
Shirley Corbett praying on a Sunday morning

In closing:

1. Expand our concept of what it means to worship God – get outside Metro's four walls
2. Give practical examples of how we can worship at the next level
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Ps. 84 – “How *lovely* is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! *My soul years, even faints* for the courts of the Lord; my *heart and flesh cry out* for the living God...Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.”

Written by the Sons of Korah ... who ancestors were swallowed whole by the earth. Num. 26: 30-34  
→ Num. 26:11 “The line of Korah, however, did not die out.”

Ps. 27:4 – “One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.”

Ps 29:1-5 – “Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength...the voice of the Lord is over the waters”

Ps 93 – “Mightier than the thunder of the great waves – the Lord on high is mighty.”

**No amount of work in the kingdom can make up for a lack of time with the King.**