

Gathered Worship & Training Up Children

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“Worship is the proper response of all moral, sentient beings to God, ascribing honor and worth to their Creator-God precisely because He is worthy, delightfully so.” —D.A. Carson

The Worship of God

- The Necessary Condition for worshiping God is that we must first truly _____ Him.
- To worship God is to live _____ in light of knowing Him.

שָׁחָה — *shachah* is the primary term used for worship in the OT.

⇒ The term carries the idea of bowing down in the presence of one who is superior.

Gen. 22:5—Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.”

προσκυνέω — *proskyneō* is the most frequently used term for worship in the NT.

⇒ The word literally means “to kiss towards.” It carries the idea of a show of reverence or an act of homage.

Matt. 4:10—Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”

In light of the biblical usage of these terms, true worship is characterized in the following ways:

- (1) The recognition of God’s _____ over the worshiper.
- (2) The recognition of the _____ and _____ of God.
- (3) The recognition that God is worshiped on His own _____.

Key Concept: To worship God is to _____ in Him as we _____ Him!

Gathered Worship

When we speak of worship, we tend to think primarily about individual/all-of-life worship (Rom. 12:1-2, Eph. 1:20-21). However, the Bible is clear that while we are individuals, we are part of the wider body of Christ, the church.

1 Pet. 2:9-10—⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Cor. 12:12-13—¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

⇒ While we are responsible to worship God as individuals, our experience of life as a believer is _____ if we fail to gather regularly with the church.

Old Testament Examples

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Nehemiah 8:1-3

2 Chron. 20:5-13

New Testament Examples

Luke 18:15-17

Acts 20:7-9

The Significance of Gathered Worship for Adults and Children

1. Gathering regularly with the church for worship is a key part of our _____.

1 Tim. 4:6-8—⁶ If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. ⁷ Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; ⁸ for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

2. When we gather for worship we publically _____ to Christ and His Word.

Acts 1:8—But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

3. Gathering for worship allows the opportunity for mutual _____.

Heb. 10:24-25—²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

4. It is within the context of the local church that we demonstrate practical _____ to the authority of God in our lives.

Heb. 13:17—¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.