

## ***Worship: An End in Itself***

John 17

September 10, 2017

Sanctify them in truth; your word is truth. - **John 17:17**

### **I. GLORIFY YOUR SON (vss. 1-5)**

- The heart of Christian worship is to glorify the Father by glorifying the Son (vs. 1; John 13:31-32).
- Jesus has authority over all humans, yet salvation comes to those whom God has given him (vs. 2, 9-10; John 6:37).
- Eternal life is knowing God through Jesus. Satan's goal is to keep this knowledge from us, yet God desires to show him to us (vs. 3; John 6:28-29; 2 Cor. 4:3-6).
- Jesus seeks to be glorified. It does us no good to serve a God who demonstrates false humility. Glorifying God in Christ is the best solution for our lives (Matt. 6:31-34).

### **II. CORPORATE WORSHIP (vss. 6-19)**

- Knowing the words of God, receiving them, and believing them is paramount in corporate worship.
- We are to be "kept" by the work of God in Christ. We are to be in the world, but not of the world (vs. 14).
- God's word is truth. By it (knowing it and doing it) we are sanctified.

### **III. TRUE WORSHIP**

- Unity is paramount in worship, both vertical and horizontal. Worship without unity is not worship.
- Worship in the New Testament is internalized and intensified into the heart, whereas in the Old Testament it was externalized. The N.T. is virtually silent on forms and locations for worship (Lev. 21-26; John 4:20-24).
- Do not be like those who worship God with their lips, but never their hearts (Isa. 29:13-14; Matt. 15:8-9).

**KNOW:** We were made for worship; to Glorify the Father by glorifying the Son, through the work of the Holy Spirit.

**DO:** Develop a heart for worship.

#### **Recommended Reading:**

*Gravity and Gladness on Sunday Morning* by John Piper (LifePoint Library #264 PIP)  
*A Royal "Waste" of Time: The Splendor of Worshipping God and Being Church for the World* by Marva J. Dawn

#### **Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families**

**Please read John 17**

1. For what three "peoples" did Jesus pray in John 17? (Whom did he pray for?)
2. When did Jesus' "High Priestly Prayer" take place? Is that significant?
3. What seems to be Jesus' overall goal in his prayer?
4. Why is Christian worship so important? Why do we do it?
5. How can you better prepare yourself (or your family) for corporate worship?
6. What did you learn about worship Sunday that will be helpful for you as you continue your walk of faith?