

The Heart of Worship Pt 2

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Jan 24th 2021

It's easy to confuse the "Art" of Worship for the "Heart" of Worship!

(Jn 4:22,23) *"Ye worship, ye know not what... true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him."* When you separate the "Heart" from the Art of Worship, you end up with a vain worship that dishonors (and even disgusts) God. Isaiah 1:10-15; 29:13; Mt 15:8,9 *"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honour me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me..."* **Mat'ēn: empty manipulation!**

Reflection: Last week we learned that True Worship involves Sacrificial Giving! Gen. 22

What "offering" does God most desire from us? Our **Devotion** (Heart).

Pr. 23:27 *"My son give me thine heart and let thine eyes observe (rasa: delight in) my ways."*

Our Devotion is demonstrated by our Dedication! (**Commitment**)

You can't divorce Dedication (behavior) from genuine Devotion. Lk 6:44-46

God doesn't want us to be motivated by Duty, but by a genuine "delight" in Him! 1 Jn 5:2,3

Direction: How does God want to be loved (and worshipped) by us?

God wants to be loved/worshipped **Passionately!** Mt 22:37 *"with all thy heart"*

1. This is how God loves us! Jn 3:16 *"God so loved the world that he gave..."* (Ro. 5:8)

A. This is why Jesus' final hours are called "His **Passion!**"

Jn 15:12,13 *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"*

B. He not only died for us, But He also **draws** us! Jer 31:3 *"I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."*

2. God doesn't just want our "Duty", but our **Desire!** Pr. 23:26

"Give me thine heart and let thine eyes observe (Rāṣā': delight in!) my ways."

A. This is why David was called "A man after God's heart" (1 Sam. 13:14)

Ps. 42:1,2 *"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God."*

Ps 119:9-11 *"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."*

Ps 119:33-35 *"Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end."*

Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight."

3. This type of Love (Worship) must be **developed.**

A. This involves a Process. Ps 37:3-5 *"Trust in the LORD, and do good; ..."*

Delight thyself (anag: be soft, pliable) in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

1) Trust + Love → **Commitment!**

B. This process is often **painful** because:

- 1) It tests our **Faith**.
 - a) The roots of Real Faith (Trust) grow deepest in the stormy seasons of life.
Job 1:20 *"Then Job arose, rent his mantle, shaved his head fell down... and worshipped!"*
Job 13:15 *"Though He slay me, Yet will I trust Him!"*
- 2) It tenderizes our **Hearts!** Job 23:14-16 *"He performeth the thing that is appointed for me: Therefore am I troubled (trembling) at His presence. For God maketh my heart soft..." (rakak: tender)*
- 3) It Teaches us (**Obedience**) Ps. 119:70-73 *"I delight in thy law. It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes."*

C. Jesus Modeled this Process Heb 5:8 *"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;"* (See John 12:27,28; Mark 14:34-36)

Conclusion:

Since Worship involves sacrificial giving, (Gen 22) What "sacrifice" does God actually want?

Mt 22:37 *"Love the Lord thy God, with all thine heart!"* Because:

- 1) This is how God loves us! Jn 3:16
- 2) God deserves more than just our "Duty", He wants our Desire! (Pr. 22:26)
- 3) This type of Love (Worship) must be developed. Ps. 37:3-5

Application:

God wants to be loved Passionately: *"with all thine heart"* Mt 22:37

- 1) Isn't this how you wish to love?
- 2) Isn't this how you wish to be loved? Not just out of duty (*grudging compliance*) but with genuine, delightful, demonstratable Devotion! (*From the Heart*)
- 3) Are you willing to pursue His process? (To learn to love/worship/please God/others?)
Ps. 37:3-5 *"Trust in the Lord and do good Delight thyself also in the Lord... Commit thy way unto the Lord. Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass"*

Paul used giving to demonstrate this type of love. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

"He which soweth (loves) sparingly shall reap also (be loved) sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give (Love); not grudgingly, or of necessity: (just out of duty) for God loveth a cheerful giver." (hilaros': Prompt, willing, delightful, hilarious)

Since we reap what we sow, (Gal. 6:7,8) 2 Corinthians 9:8 promises:

"And God is able to make all grace (char'is: God's favor: From chair: Joy, favor) abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work;"

What are the primary "good works" we're here to do?

The Great Commission and Commandment!

This tells us that if we pursue (Trust, Delight, Commit) to God,

He'll enable us (by His Grace) to *"Abound to every good work"*

Loving Him and Each other!