

**SRMBC Family Bible Study**  
**Worship: Discovering What the Scripture Says**  
**January – February 2019**  
***Reverend Thomas A. Keys, Pastor***

When we talk about worship, what do we mean? You may think of your weekly gathering with other Christians or, more specifically, singing to God—both of which are important aspects of worship. Singing is mentioned frequently throughout the Bible as a fitting way to praise God.

Singing gives many of us a way to communicate with God on a soul level. So, worship includes meeting with others to sing and honor and rededicate ourselves to God, but it is more. Before we continue, however, here are some foundational truths about worship to lay the groundwork:

- 1) **Worship is rooted in the character and permanence of God.** When we worship, we are foremost celebrating God's strong love, a love that does not threaten to lessen with each failure on our part but will endure throughout eternity because God has promised himself to us.
- 2) **Worship is always a response to God's initiative and, at the same time, is meant to be an interaction.** Worship is not only about what I give to God or what he gives to me: it's God receiving what He's worthy to receive and us receiving more of God.
- 3) **The Heart of Worship is about letting our whole lives point to the supremacy and worth of God.** The point of worship is not worship, but God - worship is not an end in itself, rather, it facilitates a closer relationship with Him.

Hopefully, these eight Bible studies will help you to open this gift of Worship and enjoy God the way you were made to.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Date</u>
Worship the Lamb	Revelation 4 – 5	1/9/2019
For Keeps	Exodus 24:1 – 11	1/16/2019
Mercy, Not Sacrifice	Psalms 50	1/23/2019
Broken for Me	Mark 14:1 – 11	1/30/2019
Planning for Praise	Isaiah 61:1 – 11	2/6/2019
All to Jesus	Luke 20:20 – 26; 45 – 47: 21:1 – 4	2/13/2019
Living Worship	Romans 12:1 – 8	2/20/2019
Our Longing Fulfilled	Revelation 21:1 – 8	2/27/2019

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January 9, 2019  
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**Lesson 1: Worship the Lamb      Revelation 4 – 5**

In a play by George Bernard Shaw, Don Juan says, “Heaven is all right, of course, but for meeting old friends and acquaintances you can’t beat Hell.” There is a powerful truth in this foolish remark. People who are only concerned about themselves would find the ceaseless praise of God and Jesus – the Lamb of God intolerable. For some, worship on the earth, a foretaste of heaven, is just as unpalatable. But worship is the deepest need of the seven churches mentioned in Chapter 1 – 3 of Revelation, and it is the deepest need of the Church today.

**Group Discussion.** What was the most significant worship experience you have ever had, and what made it so special?

**The Apostle - “Praise Him”**

Eulis ‘Sonny’ Dewey is a preacher from Texas and ‘Apostle E.F.’ There he starts to preach and with his new friend, Reverend Blackwell, he starts a campaign to renovate an old church.

This Sunday, Sonny preaches on all the ways to praise the Lord.



- **What was the reaction of the people to the call worship and praise the Lord from the Bible?**

*The people in the church – responded with playing their instruments and lifting their voices with joy. It brought them great pleasure to give worship and praise to Lord.*

- **What are the different ways of praise and worship mentioned and demonstrated?**

**Giving** – *Although not postponed until the next Sunday, the concept of giving was proclaimed as a way we can worship the Lord.*

**Voices** – *shouting, singing unto the Lord with our voices together.*

**Instruments** – *Playing of musical instruments in honor of the Lord. (Trumpet, Stringed Instruments (Guitars), Tambourines, etc.)*

- **What parts of the worship service would like to more of in our worship experiences?**

*I would like to see more of genuine joy in during worship*

*More unity – everyone participating*

*Our young – people the little one given an opportunity to praise*

## Read Revelation 4 – 5

1. **What are some of your initial impressions of God's Glory as John pictures it here? What would be the value of attempting to describe the indescribable glory of God for world-weary believers then and today?**

### The Description of God's Glory

- God is an awesome and powerful (Much greater than the Wizard Of Oz)
- God's Glory is impressive, majestic with beauty that is beyond compare.
- God's Person, Character and Faithfulness and Mercy (note the rainbow) is far above our situation(s).

### The Value Of Describing God's Glory

- It is a never – ending quest to experience the fulness of His Glory.
- It is new and refreshing – each time. The more we see or experience the more of God
- It creates an invitation/desire for others to experience His Glory for themselves

2. **How do the four creatures and the twenty-four elders respond to God's glory (4:4 – 11)?**

#### The Twenty-Four Elders

- They Fall Down in Worship.
- They Cast Down their valuable Crowns before the throne.
- They declare the worth of the Lord to receive all worship.
- They acknowledge/proclaim His authority.

#### The Four Living Creatures

- They Lift Up their voices in Praise.
- They praise continually – as if that is what they were created for.
- They can acknowledge the holiness and character of God.
- They direct all of their Praise to the One on the Throne.

3. **What aspects of worship are emphasized?**

- **Personal Holiness** – The white robes signify personal holiness- righteousness before the Lord.
- **Personal Knowledge**
  - **Of God** - His character, His power & His purpose.
  - **Of the Holy Scriptures** – Worship consistent with His Word from heaven.
- **Humility** – Understanding God's holiness and authority of all and over us.
- **Integrity/Honesty** – Worshipping without false pretense.
- **Consistency** – Without variation or wavering.
- **Fervency** – With complete passion and with everything we have.
- **Purposeful** – All worship is directed to God the One who sits on the Throne.

4. **Notice the circles of Praise that start with the throne and end with every creature and all creation in Chapter 5. What principles can we glean as we prepare for and participate in worship?**

- **Worship Should Be Personal** – Based On Our Personal Knowledge Of God.
- **Worship Should Be Scriptural** – According To His Word – God is worthy of all worship.
- **Worship Should Be Spiritual/Total** – With All Our Mind, Heart And Emotions – guided by the Holy Spirit.
- **Worship Should Be Continual** – Not just in church – but we need to live a lifestyle of worship.
- **Worship should be Communal/Mutual** – While it is good to have personal worship, we also need to worship in unity with others.
- **Worship should be Purposeful** - The purpose of worship is to glorify God.

*Jesus Said: 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” John 4:23 – 24 (NKJV)*

5. **John is shown a sealed scroll which probably represents God’s redemptive plan (5:1). How should the knowledge that Christ alone is worthy to open the Scroll (5:1 – 5) affect our worship?**

- Our Worship Is For Jesus Alone.
- He Deserves Our Very Best Worship.
- Based On All That Jesus Has Done For Us – We Owe Him Worship.
- Jesus’ Love, Mercy And Faithfulness Gives Us A Great Joy In Worship.
- We Never Need To Be Ashamed To Worship The Lord.
- When We Worship Jesus, We Are Agreeing With And Joining The Elders And Angels In Heaven.

6. **Jesus is depicted as the Lion and the Lamb. What is the significance of the Lion and the Lamb as it relates to Jesus and our worship of Him?**

The Lion – Represents Power, Authority & Strength (Gen. 49: 9 – 10)

The Lamb – Represents the deep Love of God and the self-sacrifice of Jesus (Isa, 11:1)

When we worship God, we need appreciate His power majesty and authority – But also His deep and perfect love for us.

7. **The heavenly choir gets larger and larger as the scene unfolds (5:8, 11, 13). How can our experience of worship be deepened by fellowship with people from “every tribe and language and people and nation” (5:9)?**

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**8. Worship is not just an action but a reaction, a response evoked by a vision of God's glory. Since earthy worship is to be modeled after heavenly worship what can we do to worship Jesus more fully?**

- Ask God to help you become more aware of His presence and His Glory.
- Spend consistent time in the Word – in order to know God Better.
- Reflect on the great sacrifice and love that Jesus displayed on the Cross.
- Make attending weekly worship services a priority.
- Regularly review the end time prophecies and our eternally reward and destiny with the Lord.
- Resolve to Give God our very best praise and Worship

*Ask God to help you to see Jesus in all His Glory so you can worship Him on earth as He is in heaven.*

### *Keys for Living*



While there are many ways that we can worship God, we need to fully understand that there is only One God to worship.



Jesus Christ as our Saviour, Lord and King is the Center of Worship. All glory, honor and praise belong to Him and Him alone.



When we worship God, we give Him what He deserves – because He is worthy, and He gives us Himself, because He is gracious, merciful, and loving.