



Worship with the Word

I. WHAT IS WORSHIP?

A. **Worship Is An Expression Of Agreement With Who God Is.**

1. Worship is expressed in part by declaring the truth of who God is. We agree that He is who He says He is. For example, we say, "God, You are worthy. You are good."

II. WHAT IS "WORSHIP WITH THE WORD"?

A. **Worship With The Word Is A Prayer Format In Which We Agree With God's Heart As We Sing The Biblical Truths Of Who God Is And What He Promises To Do.**

1. Worship with the Word can help us to gain deeper revelation, knowledge and understanding about a specific Biblical passage or theme of Scripture. The worship team will focus on one specific passage or theme by singing through key verses from that passage or about that theme, using cross references and Biblical language. Doing this causes the Word to come alive to us.

B. **The Purpose Of Worship With The Word Is That We Would Encounter The Living Word, Jesus Christ, As We Sing Through, Meditate On And Study The Written Word.**

1. Worship with the Word can be thought of as a "Singing Seminary." We grow in true revelation and intimacy with Jesus as we lovingly sing His Word back to His heart. We want to grow deeper and deeper in our understanding of God as revealed through Scripture and we want to develop an ability to express this revelation. We want to feel the Word burning in our hearts.

III. WHAT DO I DO DURING A "WORSHIP WITH THE WORD" SET?

A. **First, Open Your Bible To The Selected Passage And Ask The Holy Spirit To Give You Revelation Of His Word.**

*At transition time, the prayer leader will announce to the room what passage of Scripture the worship team will sing through for that set.

1. There are a number of different things that you can do to engage with the Lord during Worship with the Word set:
 - a) **Ask God about it.** Have a conversation with Him about His Word. It is very helpful to make a list of questions about the passage or verse(s). Even if you don't have questions about it, try and develop as many as you can. Ask all the inductive questions (who, what, when, where, why and how). Let Him speak to your heart. Just spend some time quieting your mind and directing your heart in love toward Him. Listen. Write down any revelation or thoughts.
 - b) **Declare it.** Take one verse or key idea from the passage and just say it quietly to yourself over and over. By declaring it, you are proclaiming that you believe it is true. It is amazing what can happen to our heart and mind when we simply declare truth over ourselves. Stir up your soul to believe the truth of what you are declaring.
 - c) **Sing it.** Just simply sing a verse or a couple of verses. We begin to feel more closely connected with the Word when we create and sing songs about it. Follow along with what the team is singing and/or make up your own antiphonal (responsive) phrases and choruses. Sing with your understanding and sing in the spirit as well.
 - d) **Find cross-references.** Look for other Bible verses that are similar to or expound on the verse that you are focusing on. The easiest way to do this is to use a concordance, which is usually found in the back section of most Bibles. You can also just try and use your own memory to think of other verses that are similar to the one you are looking at. Or, just start reading the Word and you will probably find something that will tie into the passage. You will find that cross-referencing will take you on a never-ending tour through the Word. Journal your thoughts about the verses and themes that you find.
 - e) **Study it/read about it.** Commentaries are an excellent way to get insight and understanding about the Word. You can get commentaries at the bookstore, the public library, or online –
 - (1) www.soniclight.com (click on study aids)
 - (2) www.ccel.org,
 - (3) www.otgateway.com,
 - (4) www.christiansunite.com (click on bible study aids)
 - (5) www.crosswalk.com,
 - (6) www.tyndale.cam.ac.uk/tyndale/links_biblical.htm#anchortools
 - f) **Write about it.**
 - (1) Simply write your own explanation or understanding of the passage or verse(s).
 - (2) Put the passage into your own words.
 - (3) Write out your dialogue with God about it.
 - (4) Write a story, poem, song, etc. about it.
 - (5) Compose a comparison between the passage or verse(s) and another passage of Scripture.