

Theme	Jubilee – Year of Celebration of the Lord
	Singing Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs
Speaker	SP Daniel Foo
Date	28 th Feb and 1 March 2015

Wessage Summary

Spiritual Objective: How to become true worshippers of God

"²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the <u>true worshipers</u> will worship the Father in the <u>Spirit</u> and in <u>truth</u>, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

This week's message is centred upon our journey to become true worshippers of God.

7 Steps to enter into the Presence of God

1. Decide to worship God – Psalm 34:1

" I will bless the Lord at all times"

We need to be intentional in our worship to God and deliberately make that choice to come into the presence of God and make Him the centre of our focus. In a large congregation, there is bound to be differences in styles of worship and preferences. However in corporate worship we need to be united and aligned as one. The story of Michal reminds us that complaining leads to spiritual barrenness.

2. Be a true worshipper – 1 Cor 2:11

"For what man knows the things of a man except <u>the spirit of the man</u> which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God."

We are spirit beings and we are to worship God in the Spirit. This means to submit to the Lordship and prompting of the Holy Spirit. For example when we pray, we allow the Holy Spirit to give us the prayer agenda when we pray. Regardless of how good the quality of the music in a worship service is, if the Holy Spirit is not with us in worship, our humanly effort is futile.

We are also to worship God in truth. God desires us to have "truth in our inward parts" as mentioned in Psalm 51:6. John 16:3 tells us that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth and will be the one that guides us. Thus once again it highlights the need of having the Spirit guide us in the truth. SP also highlights the need to be discerning about what we sing when we worship; worship songs must be based on Scripture instead of being mere melodious love songs.

3. Know we have right standing with God – Psalm 24:3-4

"who may stand in His holy place? He who has <u>clean hands and a pure heart</u>, who has neither lifted up his soul to an idol nor sworn deceitfully.

Through the divine exchange, we now have the righteousness of God. Our confidence to enter His presence is not through our own works but only by His blood which sanctifies us. The devil



often comes to accuse us and to put guilt in us but SP reminds us that in Hebrews 10:22, that our faith has given us a clean conscience as we are completely forgiven in Christ. We no longer need to live in guilt and condemnation but instead we can come boldly into His presence.

4. With freedom from the cares and anxieties of life. – 1 Peter 5:7 "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

Our God is a gracious God and He has given us access to His throne of grace! We need to pray in faith instead of praying half-hearted prayers. At the same time, God desires us to be strong and thus we need to strengthen and enlarge our emotional and spiritual capacities.

5. With thanksgiving – Psalm 50:14 "sacrifice <u>thanks offerings</u> to God"

Thanksgiving is the beginning of "going vertical" and channelling our focus to God. Romans 1:21 exhorts us to develop a grateful heart as it opens the door to wisdom. SP reminds us that when we partake of the Lord's supper, we should not take it flippantly but we need to be clear about its significance.

When we give thanks for the bread which is the body of Christ we need to remember that Jesus died for our salvation, that we might be cleansed of our sins. We are included in His body and in Him we have life eternal and also bodily health.

When we give thanks for the Cup which is the Blood of Christ, we need to remember that it is His blood that cleanses and covers our sins. His blood seals the New Covenant, gives us life and enables us to overcome the evil one.

6. With praise – Psalm 100:4

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and his courts with **praise**; give thanks to him and praise His name"

When we praise God, we praise Him for who He is; His attributes and His names. We need to know God to praise Him. Praise is also always vocal, it is never silent. We can do so anytime even in our personal time with God. It is our spiritual weapon!

7. With worship – Isaiah 8:13

"The Lord Almighty is the one you are to regard as Holy"

When we worship we bring delight to the Father. We need to set Him apart in our hearts as our creator and Holy God. As we worship God wholeheartedly and surrender ourselves to Him, we will develop intimacy with God and experience Him at a different level. To do so we need to direct our thoughts and emotions to God as well as give Him our love and adoration. Some ways to enter into this intimate and deep connection with God is through spiritual songs, new songs and spontaneous songs as mentioned in Eph 5:18-19. When we have such spontaneous expressions of our spirit that is unrehearsed and unpremeditated, creative expressions which are born out of faith and led by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it will help us develop our intimacy with God.



"One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple." God delights in true worshippers and invites us to intimacy with Him!

Questions

1) How would you define a true worshipper?

(Fill In Answer Here)

2) Describe how your time of personal, cell and corporate worship has been for you.

(Fill In Answer Here)

3) Examine yourself based on the 7 steps mentioned by SP. Which of the steps do you need to work on to come into the presence of God?

(Fill In Answer Here)