

VEF Worship Service – July 12th, 2020

Call to Worship	Psalm 150
Worship in Song	Heart of Worship
Scripture Reading	Psalm 95:6-7
Worship in Song	Speak O Lord You Alone Can Rescue
Announcements	Jims
Message <i>“Call to Praise, Call to Worship”</i>	Pastor Darren Carter John 4:24
Response Song	The Lord is My Salvation
Benediction	Pastor Darren Carter

Announcements

Our worship services at 13:30 each Sunday on our YouTube Channel - <https://tinyurl.com/ybsv2avf>

“Your Confirmation” is a Bible study that meets on Sunday mornings from 10:30AM-11:30AM in B104. Anyone is welcome to join. For more information please contact Peter Park – koo26@naver.com

This Sunday at the “Mission Corner” – 3PM-4:30PM in L101 – please come and listen to Daniel Wen as he speaks about his call and upcoming plans to go to Chad to serve as a missionary.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held August 6-8 from 9AM-12PM. We need volunteers – if you are willing to volunteer please contact Dora Johnson at dora.c.johnon@gmail.com or David Dyck at dt dyck67@gmail.com. VBS is for children ages 4 years old through those going into 6th grade. We welcome students older than that to help out as volunteers. You can register for VBS online at <https://www.vefellowship.com/home/vbs2020/>

There will be a Worship Team Workshop held next Saturday, July 18th from 1PM-5PM (with dinner provided after). This is an opportunity for existing members to connect with each other, gain some new skills, and for anyone who is interested in serving on the worship team. For more information contact Dora (dora.c.johnson@gmail.com) or Peter (koo26@naver.com).

Question: "What is the meaning of Christian worship?"

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-worship.html>

Answer: The meaning of the New Testament Greek word most often translated “worship” (proskuneo) is “to fall down before” or “bow down before.” Worship is a state (an attitude) of spirit. Since it’s an internal, individual action, it could/should be done most of the time (or all the time) in our lives, regardless of place or situation ([John 4:21](#)). Therefore, Christians worship all the time, seven days a week. When Christians formally gather together in worship, still the emphasis should be on individually worshipping the Lord. Even in a congregation, participants need to be aware that they are worshipping God fully on an individual basis.

The nature of Christian worship is from the inside out and has two equally important parts. We must worship “in spirit and in truth” ([John 4:23-24](#)). Worshiping in the spirit has nothing to do with our physical posture. It has to do with our innermost being and requires several things. First, we must be born again. Without the Holy Spirit residing within us, we cannot respond to God in worship because we do not know Him. “No one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God” ([1 Corinthians 2:11b](#)). The Holy Spirit within us is the one who energizes worship because He is in essence glorifying Himself, and all true worship glorifies God.

Second, worshiping in spirit requires a mind centered on God and renewed by Truth. Paul exhorts us to “present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind” ([Romans 12:1b, 2b](#)). Only when our minds are changed from being centered on worldly things to being centered on God can we worship in spirit. Distractions of many kinds can flood our minds as we try to praise and glorify God, hindering our true worship.

Third, we can only worship in spirit by having a pure heart, open and repentant. When King David’s heart was filled with guilt over his sin with Bathsheba ([2 Samuel 11](#)), he found it impossible to worship. He felt that God was far from him, and he “groaned all day long” feeling God’s hand heavy upon him ([Psalm 32:3,4](#)). But when he confessed, fellowship with God was restored and worship and praise poured forth from him. He understood that “the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart” ([Psalm 51:17](#)). Praise and worship toward God cannot come from hearts filled with unconfessed sin.

The second part of true worship is worship “in truth.” All worship is a response to truth, and that which is truth is contained in the Word of God. Jesus said to His Father, “Thy word is truth” ([John 17:17b](#)). [Psalm 119](#) says, “Thy law is truth” (v. 142b) and “Thy word is true” (v. 160a). To truly worship God, we must understand who He is and what He has done, and the only place He has fully revealed Himself is in the Bible. Worship is an expression of praise from the depths of our hearts toward a God who is understood through His Word. If we do not have the truth of the Bible, we do not know God and we cannot be truly worshipping.

Since external actions are unimportant in Christian worship, there is no rule regarding whether we should sit, stand, fall down, be quiet, or sing praises loudly while in corporate worship. These things should be decided based on the nature of the congregation. The most important thing is that we worship God in spirit (in our hearts) and in truth (in our minds.)