

## WE WORSHIP BETTER TOGETHER

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment."*

Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)

❖ Telling God you love Him is called WORSHIP.

*"But the time is coming and is already here when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for anyone who will worship him that way."*

John 4:23 (NLT)

1. We are PRE-WIRED to worship.

*Paul stood up in front of the city council and said, "I see that in every way you Athenians are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I walked through your city and looked at the places where you worship, I found an altar on which is written, 'To an Unknown God.' That which you worship, then, even though you do not know it, is what I now proclaim to you."*

Acts 17:22-23 (TEV)

2. We BECOME what we WORSHIP.

*But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men. <sup>8</sup>Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.*

Psalms 115:4,8 (NIV)

3. We worship BETTER TOGETHER.

*I was glad when they said unto me, "let us go into the house of the Lord."*

Psalms 122:1 (KJV)

❖ How Can We Show God, We LOVE HIM?

1. By SINGING to Him.

*Sing out your thanks to Him; sing praises to our God...*

Psalms 147:7 (LB)

2. By TALKING to Him.

*I love the Lord because He hears and answers my prayers. <sup>2</sup>Because He bends down and listens, I will pray as long as I have breath!*

Psalms 116:1-2 (NLT)

3. By LISTENING to Him.

*"I am the good shepherd I know My own sheep, and they know Me... <sup>16</sup>and they listen to My voice."*

John 10:14, 16 (NLT)

4. By PUBLICLY IDENTIFYING with Him.

*"If anyone is ashamed of Me and My teaching then I will be ashamed of him when I come with the glory of My Father..."*

Mark 8:38 (ICB)

➤ Two Ways We Are to "Go Public" With Our Love for God:

- Through baptism... we proclaim His salvation.

*When we went under the water, we left the old country of sin behind; when we came up out of the water, we entered into the new country of grace – a new life in a new land! That's what baptism into the life of Jesus means. When we are lowered into the water, it is like the burial of Jesus; when we are raised up out of the water, it is like the resurrection of Jesus.*

Romans 6:3 (MSG)

- Through the Lord's Supper... we proclaim His second coming.

*The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread <sup>24</sup>and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; eat it in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup>In the same way, He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me. <sup>26</sup>For whenever you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes back."*

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NIV)

5. By BEING COMMITTED to Him.

*Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.*

Romans 12:1 (MSG)

6. By GIVING to Him.

*Just as you excel in faith, in speech, in knowledge and in complete earnestness... see that you also excel in the grace of giving. <sup>8</sup>I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love.*

2 Corinthians 8:7-8 (NIV)

❖ Closing Truth: Worship is a MATTER of the HEART.

*"If you decide that it's a bad thing to worship GOD, then choose a god you'd rather serve—and do it today... As for me and my family, we'll worship GOD."*

Joshua 24:15 (MSG)