

Now is the Time for Worship

GCF Needs More Worship

Miracles Happen When Our Faith Touches the Power of God (Matthew 14:34-36; Luke 6:17-19)

- The woman who was healed of her bleeding problem (in Mark 5:25-34)
- She had faith before she touched Jesus, but her healing happened when her faith touched the power of God

We Encounter the Power of God During Worship

- The jail collapsing in Acts (Acts 16:25-27)
- The Spirit falling at the dedication of the temple (2 Chronicles 5:11-14)

We Will Never Become the Church God Wants us to Be Without Regular Powerful Worship

- If we never get to the point where powerful worship is part of our life at least weekly and not just part of a special season, we will never accomplish our vision as a church.
- If think that if we don't get to the place where we have regular weekly powerful worship (and not just the 10:30 worship) then we will not start to walk in the spiritual power God wants us to be walking in.

Tips for More Powerful Worship

1. Get to Know God Deeper

- If you get to know God's greatness in more detail, then the statement "How Great is Our God" will mean more to you than it used to and then singing and proclaiming it will become more impactful
- Getting to know any area of God's greatness in deeper detail will equip you to have deeper worship

2. Prepare Your Heart Before Worship

- **Refresh your memory of God's greatness (this one is particularly helpful)**
- Humble yourself
- Pray for God's anointing and that He would open our eyes to see and know Him

3. Have an Attitude of Determination

Enter worship with an attitude of determination to proclaim God's glory!

- When you come to worship have this attitude:
 - My worship has objective value even if I don't feel God's presence or get any enjoyment out of it
 - It is good that God be praised (Psalms 147:1) and it still glorifies Him
 - Proclaiming God's praises makes a difference in the spiritual atmosphere and in spiritual warfare
 - I am going to worship God whether I feel His presence or not
 - I am going to value worship whether it makes me feel good or not

4. Engage Your Mind Fully

- Singing does not take up a lot of mental space if you already know the lyrics
- What you do with the rest of your attention matters a lot when it comes to how affective your worship is
 - Generally, when you're singing, you should be thinking about the lyrics, but don't just think about them at face value, think about them deeply and intentfully
 - In general, while singing and especially during musical interludes think about:
 - Who God is
 - His nature, character, heart, and attributes
 - What God has done
 - In your life
 - Throughout the ages
 - In redemption
 - What God is doing and will do
 - God promises and His future goodness

5. Pray for God's Anointing (Luke 11:11-13)

- Pray before the worship meeting that God would anoint it
- Pray in general for more powerful worship in general

6. Pray in Tongues

- Praying in tongues before and during worship can help you to connect deeper with God
- It edifies you in your Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:4)
- It is a tool that can help us out in worship but we as a church rarely take advantage of it (myself included)

I wanted to make this list of tips concise in order to make it easier to remember and to apply, so if you would like even more tips, please check out a sermon on our website called "Pursuing Deeper Worship"

Let's Have More Worship

Small Worship Meetings are Practical and Powerful

- They are more practical
 - You don't have to find a time where a bunch of people with different schedules can all manage to attend
 - You can have them in someone's home
 - You don't even need someone who can play an instrument (you can use YouTube or Spotify)
 - It doesn't even need to be recurring or planned in advance
- How powerful they are
 - Honestly probably the majority of powerful worship meetings I've been to have been small, casual meetings that were held in someone's home just using lyric videos
- It can make it easier to pray for things we might not otherwise pray for
 - It's easier to be more transparent
 - Most people don't wanna share very personal struggles in a group of 30 people
- It's easier for everyone to get more involved in the prayer time and not just a few people

Anyone Can Arrange Small Worship Meetings

- You don't need to wait for leaders to plan worship meetings, you can plan your own!
- You don't need to wait for somebody who knows how to play an instrument (you can use lyric videos)
- Please think about how you can be involved in more worship.